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The Long Island FISHERMAN

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COMING NEXT WEEK:
PORGY FISHING

About the Cover—

A nice medium sized bass is gaffed and brought aboard during a good days fishing. June is prime bass time in the waters of Long Island.

Richard Reina — PUBLISHER
Scott Simons — MANAGING EDITOR
Dr. Wm. A. Muller — EDITOR
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CHUM LINES

STRIPERS NEAR SAYVILLE

I just wanted to drop you folks a line to tell you how much I enjoy your weekly magazine. As you can see, I receive your publication up here in cold, cold Buffalo. I'm a student here at the University of Buffalo, though I live my summers on Long Island. It really means a lot to me to be able to take a break from my studies to read about the local fishing back home. I find your editorial policy quite in line with my own opinion, particularly your stand on conservation and the 200-Mile Limit. Other people up here in western New York also find these editorials (and this magazine in general) very interesting.

I do have one question. I am lucky enough to own a 16' Fiberglas boat with an old 40 horse outboard. What I would like to know is the **where** and how I can use my boat to catch some stripers near my hometown (Sayville on the Great South Bay). I've read some articles about clam chumming and trolling worms, but I don't know where to try these methods around the Bay. I could easily travel anywhere from the Robert Moses Bridge to as far east as Smith Point.

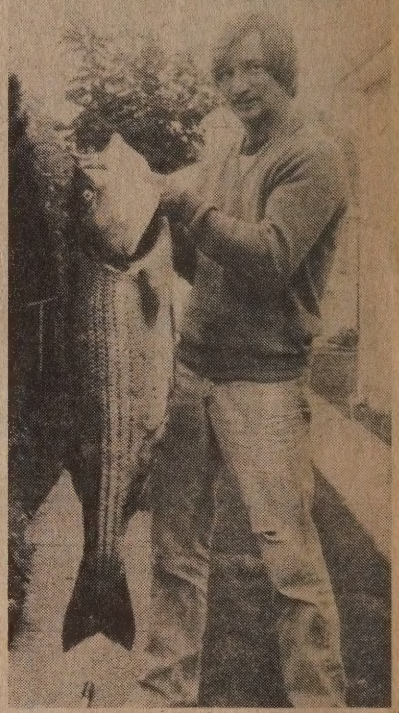
I would really be thankful for any information about this. Unfortunately I am only really home from the middle of May to around September 1. (Boy, I sure miss out on a lot of good fishing.) **Matthew R. Martin, Sayville, NY.**

It's always surprising to find that people in places 500 miles from the sea still find a saltwater fishing publication interesting, since we're sure that they don't even recognize familiar names such as the Robert Moses Bridge or the Greenport Breakwater. Nonetheless, it's nice to know that we are accepted near and far. There are some good bass fishing possibilities in your area, but for the most part, you will have to fish the night tides. Fishermen regularly take large bass in May and June near the Old Lighthouse on bunker and blackfish. During the summer, clam chummers enjoy some success at various spots in the State channel. A very good bet would be to drift worms or mackerel strips in the entrance to Fire Island Inlet during June. You say that you return to Buffalo early in September, so that pretty much eliminates you from the bass run; but if we get a late August cold snap, it might be worthwhile to try trolling in the ocean with umbrella rigs and bunker spoons.

MORE HELP FOR MAKING SINKERS

I have recently been reading about "Trouble Making Sinkers" in May 18 Chum Lines about a Jon Rothfield who was having trouble getting his molten lead to fill the entire cast before hardening. Your paper had mentioned the possibility that the lead he was using was not of pure substance. I have run into this problem myself. My successful answer to this problem is to heat up the cast itself until it feels slightly warm, thus allowing the melted metal to flow to the bottom of the mold and fill successfully.

I hope I am of some help. **D. Aurieman, Oakland Garden, NY.**



FIELD & STREAM CONTEST WINNER

Enclosed is a picture of a striped bass (30 lbs. 14 oz.) I caught from the Jones Inlet West End Jetty last October. I entered it in the 1977 Field & Stream fishing contest and was just notified that it won First Place for the 12 pound class. Actually, the line strength was 10 pound, but they entered it into the next heavier line.

I was quite surprised by the news since this contest is a national contest, and I thought there would be a lot of entries. I didn't think my fish was big enough to win.

Most of my fishing is done with light tackle and at night. I find it a lot easier to maneuver with the lighter equipment and I get lots more hook-ups. I lose a lot of the bigger fish, usually because I can't set the hook and they spit it, but I like it this way. **George T. Cross, Levittown, NY.**

SHORE FISHING LOCATIONS NEAR SOUTHAMPTON SOUGHT

I would like to make a request or a suggestion: information on shore fishing. I have no boat; don't want a party boat, and am fairly new in the area. Would like to know a spot to go

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to now and again to try my luck. During the snapper season, I go often to the Shinnecock Canal and Towd Point, but that is the limit of my fishing grounds. An occasional addition of a spot in the local fishing report or an article would be most welcome. **Jean Petrie, Southampton, N.Y.**

Unfortunately, you live in an area where public docks, piers, and jetties are almost non-existent. You are already fishing two of the best spots, but you might investigate some of the creeks that enter Peconic Bay in your area. It is possible to catch flounder, weaks, and sometimes small bass at the mouths of these creeks at dawn, dusk, and during the night. If you own or can hitch a ride with someone who owns a four wheel drive vehicle, you can fish Cow Neck, too. The entrance to Mecox Bay produces in the spring and fall, but you have to be Johnny-on-the-spot when they open up the entrance.

CLUB NEWS

GATEWAY STRIPER CLUB CASTING CONTEST

The Gateway Striper Club held its first interclub casting contest on April 15 at the Club's headquarters in Ft. Tilden. The winners were:

Distance—1st-Ed Wolf; 2nd-Joe Klosek. Accuracy—1st-Tie: Joe Klosek, John Ohle; 2nd-Dom Guadagno. Overall—1st: Ed Wolf; 2nd-Joe Klosek.

The Club would also like to announce that a few openings still exist on the Club's membership rolls. Anyone interested, contact David Williams at 853-1772 or come down to our next meeting on May 11, at Fort Tilden, Building 168.

WILLIS FISHING CLUB LOOKS FOR NEW MEMBERS

Willis Fishing Club now accepting a few **new** members. Club located in the Williston Park-Albertson area in Nassau County.

Inquire at The Willis Inn, 947 Willis Ave., Albertson, NY 11507; phone: 516-746-9604.

Contests & Tournaments

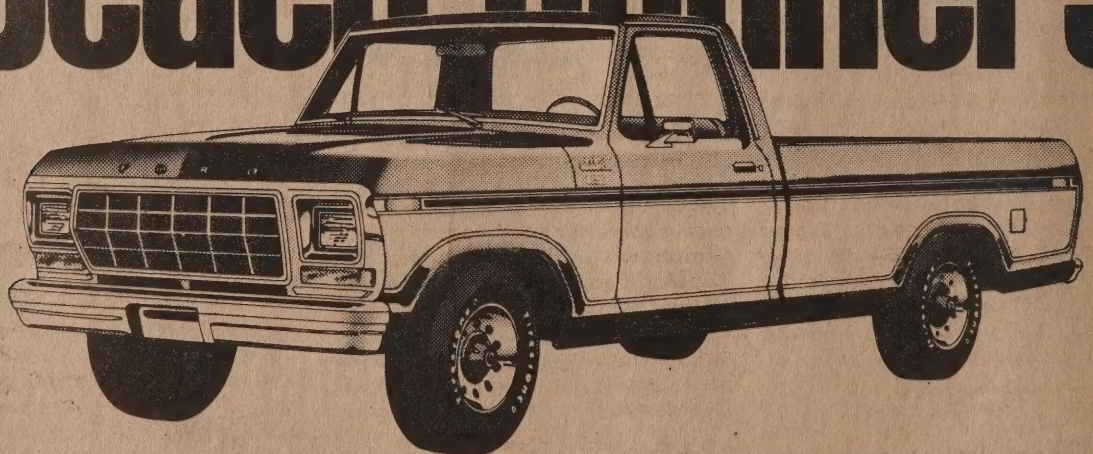
PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB WEAKFISH TOURNAMENT

The Patchogue Fishing Club had its annual Weakfish Tournament out of Heckscher State Park on Sunday, May 21, 1978. Joel Runkel of Brookhaven caught a 9 lb. 3 oz. weakfish on a pink shrimp northwest of buoy 18 for first place. Bill Caldwell of Medford nailed an 8 lb. 2 oz. fish off Ocean Beach for second place. Vic Yannacone of Patchogue caught the third place fish of 7 lbs. 7 oz., off Ocean Beach on a white Tout lure. Dr. Richard Marasco caught a 7 lb. 6 oz. weakfish near the Fire Island Inlet for fourth place.

BAY SHORE MAKO TOURNAMENT

The Bay Shore Tuna Club is pleased to again invite all fsihing clubs and anglers to participate in the Mako Tournament to be held at Bay Shore on June 24 and June 25. Entries to be limited to 150 boats—first come, first served. Due to tremendous demand for entries and trying to be fair with all, applications are being accepted as of now. **Only one 3 boat**

Beach Runners



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FISHERMAN PUBLICATIONS

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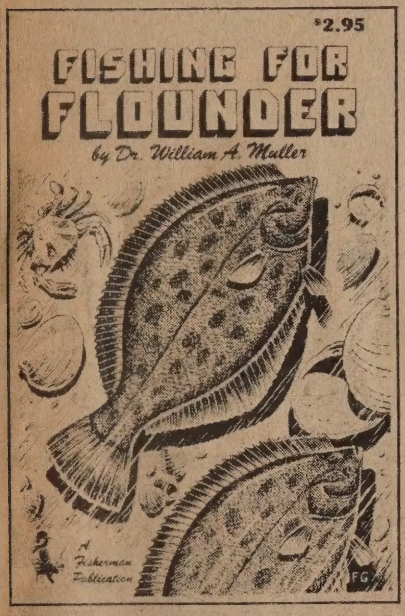

FISHING FOR FLOUNDER

by Dr. William A. Muller

The first book EVER to be published exxclusively on techniques for catching winter flounder. Separate chapters cover topics like *Baits, Rigging Up, Scientific Information, Chumming Techniques, How-To Locate Flounder, Where-To Go, Fishing Techniques*—also an entire chapter on how to clean and cook this table favorite. Fully illustrated by Fred Guardineer, photos. 96 Pages.

$3.45 *Includes postage, Handling & Sales Tax*

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by Scott Simons

The first book EVER to be published exclusively on how to catch fluke! Contains complete chapters on *Tackle, Equipment, Rigging Up, Natural Baits, Bottom Formations, Drifting, Trolling, Chumming* and *Artificial Lures*. Illustrated with over 85 photographs and diagrams by Fred Guardineer. 112 Pages.

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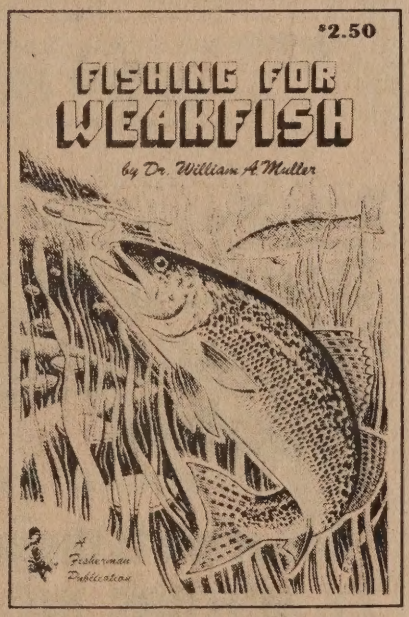

FISHING FOR WEAKFISH

by Dr. William A. Muller

The first all-new book to be published on the art of catching weakfish in more than 25 years! Entire chapters devoted to covering topics such as *Tackle, Artificial Lures, Natural Baits, Rigging Up, Cooking & Cleaning,* and extensive chapter on *Where-To-Go.*

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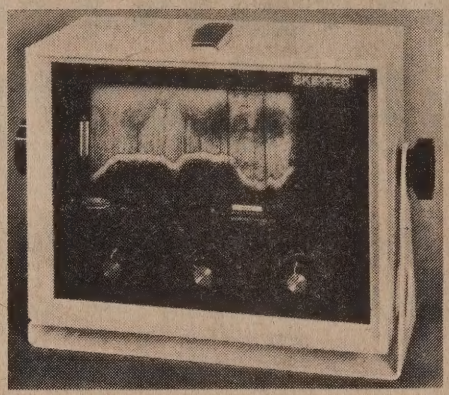

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team per club will be allowed.

As in last year's tournament, pre-designated club teams will be competing for club prizes and all anglers may compete for individual prizes.

This year's entry fee will be $90 (Ninety) per boat. There will be no angler fees, but **each boat must list all anglers on application.** Each boat entered will receive bait and chum in the amount of 100 lbs. per day to be supplied in the following manner:

2 regular cans Chum
*1 slab of Bunkers
**10 lbs. frozen Butterfish
or Mackerel.

(*Committee reserves the right to substitute such bait as is available.)

A meeting of anglers will be held on Friday night, June 23 at Capt. Bill's Anchorage, Ocean Avenue, Bay Shore, New York at 8:00 p.m. sharp. At this time, the boat numbers, tournament badges and literature will be distributed. General conduct and questions concerning the tournament and rules will be answered and explained at this time. For more information, call: 516-MO 5-0037.

HIGH HILL STRIPER CLUB'S WEAKFISH CONTEST

Bob Krauss won this year's weakfish contest with an impressive tiderunner of 8 lbs. 7 oz. Jim Kelly's son also took a nice weak and new member, Mike Lowndes, succeeded with a stringer of blues. The High Hill Striper Club is a surf fishing club, and we have a few openings remaining. If you are interested, contact Bill Muller, between 5 and 7 PM at 667-5344.

MONTAUK MARINE BASIN, INC. SHARK TAG TOURNAMENT

We would like to announce the 7th Annual Shark Tag Tournament sponsored by the Montauk Marine Basin, West Lake Drive, Montauk, Long Island, New York. The Tournament is scheduled for July 21, 22, and 23, 1978.

True sport fishermen support the shark tag tournament due to the emphasis on tagging and releasing the bulk of the catch as opposed to the 100% kill tournaments. Under the supervision of Jack Casey, biologist and director of the shark research program for the Department of Commerce at the National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory, Narragansett, Rhode Island, the fishermen are given tagging instructions and tags. This interest accounts for the 252 sharks tagged and released during the three day 1977 tournament. There has been a conservation backlash and a new interest in de-mystifying the shark and finding out more about his life and his place in the environment.

The highlight of the 1977 tournament weekend was the 1,039 lb. Mako angler James George of West Patterson, New Jersey caught while fishing aboard his 27' Silverton, the Craps 2-6's. Jimmy George's Mako weighed

in at the Montauk Marine Basin during the trophy ceremony, Sunday afternoon, July 17, 1977. This shark is being mounted and will be on display at the Montauk Marine Basin.

Please direct correspondence to the Montauk Marine Basin, West Lake Drive, Montauk, N.Y. 11954, Attention: Carol Kroupa.

Pass It On...

GETTING DUMPED ON?

Ocean dumping is still very much alive and well in our New York waters. It is a legal action as long as the dumper has acquired the proper permit from the Environmental Protection Agency.

In order to receive a permit, a great deal of information must be supplied to the EPA. This information includes names and addresses of applicants, processors and transporters; the quantity and physical-chemical description of the material to be dumped; dates and proposed times of disposal; and also an assessment of the anticipated environmental impact of the proposed dumping.

There are currently five dumping sites within the New York Bight Apex (see map) where the disposal of toxic and non-toxic wastes are permitted. These include a sewage sludge site, the acid waste site, the wreck site (or derelict vessel), the dredged material site (mud), and the cellar dirt site (rubble and debris). There is also another chemical dump site which is located 106 nautical miles from the New York Harbor entrances on the edge of the Continental Shelf.

The U.S. Coast Guard is responsible for the surveillance of the disposal of toxic materials and spot-checks of non-toxic material dumps. The exact location of the dump sites are as follows:

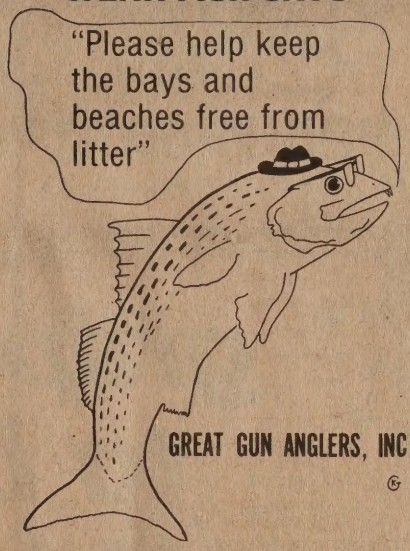
Dump Site	Coordinates Latitude and Longitude
Sewage Sludge	40°22'30"N to 40°25'00"N 73°41'30"W to 73°45'00"W
Dredged Material	40°24'10"N, 73°51'00"W[1]
Cellar Dirt	40°23'00"N, 73°49'00"W[1]
Acid Wastes	40°16'00"N to 40°20'00"N 73°36'00"W to 73°40'00"W
Wreck	40°13'00"N, 73°46'00"W[1]
Chemical Wastes	38°40'00"N to 39°00'00"N 72°00'00"W to 72°30'00"W

Many complaints can be heard among fishermen concerning the dumping of materials in a location other than the specific EPA location. This is usually called a "short dump." What can you do about it? You can take action. But first you must obtain the exact location of your "illegal" siting via Loran, visual bearings when possible, or any other method you have for pinpointing your location. Record the vessel's identification numbers and if possible, take a picture of the proposed culprit in action. Immediately summon the U.S. Coast Guard via proper radio procedures.

Keep a record of your complaint. A follow-up phone call to the Environmental Protection Agency (Peter Anderson, Ocean Dumping Division, 201-321-6689) wouldn't hurt. They re are responsible for issuing notices of violation under the EPA enforcement regulation.

Don't just get down in the dumps...do something about it!

WALLY THE WEAK FISH SAYS



GREAT GUN ANGLERS SPONSOR ANTI LITTER CAMPAIGN

The Great Gun Anglers have made up posters and are sponsoring a campaign to stop littering on our beaches and waterways. This is a great effort that deserves the praise of all fishermen. We have accepted the littering behavior of some of our fishing fraternity for too long. Look for the Great Gun posters in tackle shops, liveries, ice houses, etc., and think "clean."

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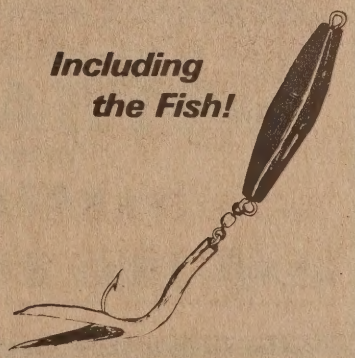

In 1977 one of the hottest new lures was a tube and jig combo called the *Banana Split.* This lure can be cast, trolled or jigged straight up and down. It will produce bass, blues, cod, weaks and fluke under a variety of conditions. The *Banana Split* is made from super-tough latex rubber in vibrant fluorescent colors. The *Banana Split* comes in weights of 3, 4, 6 and 8 ounces. If you think diamond jigs are good, wait until you try a *Banana Split.* Wherever useful fishing tackle is sold is where you will find this lure.
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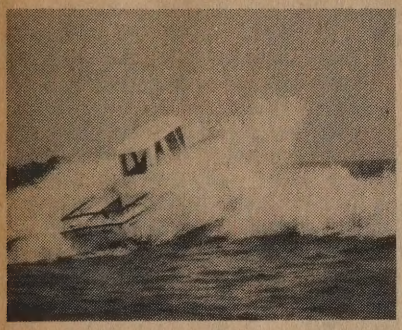

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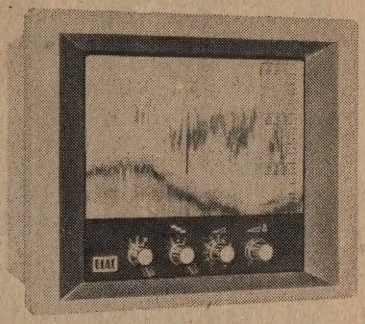

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FISH TALK
with Dr. William A. Muller

FISHING FOLKLORE

IT'S BLACKFISH SEASON! Shark fishermen may not be delighted to hear that the blackfish are once again feeding on the Island's rock-strewn reefs and twisted wrecks; but if you're at all like me, you view the first reports of good blackfishing with great enthusiasm. In addition to adorning the table in a most delicious way, the blackfish is the undisputed tough guy of the bottom fraternity—or is he? Well, they fight like troopers, all right, and their thick muscular bodies allow them to generate considerable power. Many times you can hook-up with a good-sized blackfish, take up a couple of turns of line, and then find out that your fish and your terminal tackle have been expertly jammed into a two-by-two crevice in the rock pile. But the tough-guy reputation that blackfish have enjoyed since fishermen first started fishing for them is much more the result of their rugged appearance and dogged fighting style than it is a reality. Actually, the blackfish is a shy fellow who prefers to stay close to the rock pile and its relative safety and security.

LINE SHY OR JUST PLAIN SHY? Good question! It is true that blackfish spook easily. Ask any sinker bouncing sharpie and he or she will tell it like it is. Make too much noise on shallow water reefs and the blacks are gone. Bounce your sinker too much and they'll run away from your baited hooks faster than you can count. Even big blackfish will head for the cracks in the reef if a big bass starts to prowl in their territory. Put several blackfish in a tank without sand or rocks, and they will press up against the darkest corner of the tank and remain motionless. If rocks are added, they will do their darndest to get under, around—and if possible—inside the rocks. In the final analysis, blackfish are very shy fish and they are frightened by almost any movement in their vicinity. And it's a good adaptation to survival since they are a slow swimming species and because there are many fast swimming predators in the ranges of their migrations: big hungry bass inshore, and the ever-gluttonous mouths of lunker cod and pollack offshore, to say nothing of sharks, moray eels, and other delightful monsters of the deep.

GET TO THE POINT! All right already, I'll get to the point. Since it's blackfish season, I immediately plan the first attack. I do this for every species and I sometimes think that I get more excited about planning the first trip than I do actually fishing the first trip. Anyway, things inevitably pass through your mind: baits, fiddler crabs and green crabs; clams and worms; hooks, Virginia; habitat, rocky; season....Here's where the wheels started turning. Blackfish season begins when the dogwood blooms. Isn't that right? Isn't that how we learned it? Sure it is and it's true, right? Fact or folklore—which is it? For the inshore fisherman, the blackfish season does begin with the blooming of the dogwood trees. Nowhere is this more true than in Long Island Sound. The timing of this event is a variable that only soothsayers and Mother Nature can pinpoint. The cold weather that has plagued most of this spring's scene is likely to push the season sluggishly off to a late start. The fishing sequence of a given season is usually pretty consistent, although there are frequent surprises. Nonetheless, flounder got off to a slow and inconsistent start and peak action averaged about two weeks late. The first weaks trickled into the bays during the last days of April, but the best of the fishing should have proved—by the time of publication—to be weeks behind the first showing. Thus, the likely start to the blackfish season should arrive at the end of May. If the first few weeks of May are warm, the whole timetable becomes as worthless as a two-day old newspaper.

ABOUT THE TIMING OF DOGWOODS! So, the tale about dogwoods and blackfish is, in the main, a fair account of the way things are; that is, unless you are fishing at Montauk. Most serious blackfishing at Montauk is done in fairly deep water at Cartwright and on the Block Island grounds. We think that blackfish migrate into these deep-water hangouts from the inshore shoals when winter sets in. Deep water temperatures hold their own pretty well against the chill of winter. Thus, Montauk's blackfish season gets under way in April when the first spring days begin to warm the ocean water just a trifle. The big bulldogs are an interesting and annual early spring phenomena at Montauk, and blackfishermen there know nothing about dogwoods and blackfish. In fact, they are lucky if there are a few crocuses blooming that early.

OTHER MYTHS AND TALES. One of the most interesting has got to be the old adage that the flounder season begins on St. Patrick's Day. It is especially interesting because St. Paddy's Day is a fixed event; i.e., it occurs on March 17 year after year. The dogwood's blooming may vary with different spring temperature patterns, but St. Pat's Day will always be on March 17. Where you fish also plays a role. Decent flounder fishing rarely starts as early as March 17 in the Peconics and this year you would have had an especially hard time drilling holes in the ice and steering

around ice floes in the open bay! Good grief! However, in some parts of the Great South Bay, St. Patrick's Day represents a late start to the flounder season. In some of the shallow muddy parts of the bay, a few warm sunny days are enough to get things started as early as mid-February and there are a few die-hards that swear they catch flounders in January when the weather cooperates. The sun's rays can penetrate the shallow water, striking the black mud and heating the mud considerably. The result is that water temperatures in these shallow coves can be as much as ten degrees higher than the temperature of the open bay. Now, if flounder is your game at Montauk, you can start the season off in late March, but the real good stuff doesn't start until late May and June. Maybe holding St. Paddy's Day on June 17 is a better idea than March 17; after all the weather should be more conducive to both walking and drinking!

ON WEAKFISH AND LILACS! There's another good one. It's like the dogwood story. If it's warm, the lilacs will bloom early and if it's cold, they'll bloom late. Likewise, if it's warm or cold the water temperature will be off by a similar amount. It's a better formula than St. Patrick's Day, but how accurate is it? For Peconic Bay, it is accurate all right. When the lilac bushes have those lovely smelling blooms, the weaks will be ready and waiting out east. Caution: don't judge the formula by the condition of your lilacs in Massapequa or Flushing. The weaks bite in the Peconics when the lilacs bloom in the Peconics and there may be a difference of several weeks between the blooming of the bush in the west end and the east end. Surrounded by cold winter ocean water, the east end warms very slowly. Weakfish generally begin to respond well to artificials and bait alike sometime during the first week of May in the Great South Bay. Whether or not there are any lilacs in bloom around the perimeter of the Great South Bay at that time is questionable, but there are probably a few bushes in bloom in Brooklyn and Queens! The lilacs are no longer purple or white when weakfishing gets rolling in Long Island Sound, because peak season in that body of water is June and sometimes part of July. The same thing is true at Montauk and the season may be even later. A few years ago, weakfishing hit its stride at Montauk in June, but last year the best of it occurred during July and August.

INVENTING NEW TALES! There are some fish that are inevitably left out of things; neglected and unwanted. Gee, I feel sorry for the poor porgy. Has anybody noticed that the porgy season begins when the oak trees are in flower? Sea robins and the maple trees? Fluke and the first Baltimore Oriole? Wouldn't it be funny if fifty years from now we live by those rules of thumb!

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Sinker Bouncing with Matt Ahern

SEA BASS

The other day I had an opportunity to listen in on several experienced sinker bouncers batting the breeze; and because a guy never knows when he'll learn something, I took full advantage of it. To a dedicated fisherman, this activity is always a pleasant pastime. In no time at all particular ideas on terminal tackle, riggings, baits, and methods of fishing were being thoroughly discussed. The debate remained peaceful enough, until one guy voiced his opinion as to what fish of all our summer visitors was most popular. It was then when I cocked an attentive ear, for this subject is always grist for an interesting squabble. In minutes, things got going hot and heavy, and pros and cons flew back and forth. The merits of fluke, porgies, sea bass, kingfish—even ling—were bandied about. Each fish's strongest and weakest points were minutely dissected, heatedly defended or trounced upon, with each fisherman championing his personal favorite in no uncertain terms. Nothing, of course, was settled to everyone's satisfaction, for fishermen being fishermen, there is seldom one hundred percent accord in such disputes. And in that respect, I was glad my presence was considered as that of an interested spectator only. Had I been asked to name my favorite, I would have been sore put to make a decision, for I love 'em all.

On reflection, I suppose I would have mentioned sea bass as one fish high on my list of favorites. And I'm not alone on this, for there's lots of agreement: sea bass are indeed popular.

I believe one reason for this esteem is the willingnes of sea bass to cooperate with the sinker bouncer to th point of foolhardiness. If sea bass are on the grounds, i isn't necessary to be experienced to fill a bucket. Whe the angler couples this impulsiveness with the fact that h will rarely find a more delicious tasting fish, it is easy t see why sea bass are popular with the bottom fishing clan

July and August are prime sea bass months, but Jun shouldn't be overlooked. During the heyday of super fishing, it was this mid-year month that could always b depended upon to produce excellent catches—especiall when wreck fishing.

Experienced sea bass fishermen may fault me on this but I've never had much luck with these fish aroun inshore areas. Sure, I've caught sea bass in deep-wate creeks and similar spots, and I've seen occasiona humpbacks come up in such places as Shinnecock an Quogue canals, but for consistent fishing, it is always bes to fish the offshore grounds. This doesn't necessarily hav to be the ocean. Some good angling can be had in Lon Island Sound, especially in those deeper rock-strew fishing areas. That last sentence contains the key to goo sea bass fishing. The deeper the water (within reason), th better your chances of connecting. My best sea bas fishing has always been when the wreck or piece o rock-littered bottom lay in water ranging from forty t ninety feet.

Because six to eight ounce sinkers are necessary t reach and hold bottom in such areas, spinning tackle wi prove a poor choice. My favorite sea bass tackle consists o a medium-weight seven foot conventional rod and a Pen 155 filled with at least 100 yards of twenty pound tes mono. If I know the area I plan to fish is "sticky," I'll u the test to thirty pound, which gives me a fighting chanc to salvage part of my terminal rig.

If you plan to do a little sea bass fishing aroun breakwaters and jetties, medium-weight spinning gea will get by, but all in all, I don't think the fisherman will g wrong with conventional stuff, no matter where he intend to fish.

Don't forget, too, that because sea bass fishing i always best around rock piles and wrecks, you are almos certain to lose some of your terminal tackle; therefore, b advised to carry spares. If you're party boat fishing there's no need to weigh yourself down with extra gear i you prefer not to, since hooks and sinkers can always b purchased on board; but if you are on your own, b advised to carry replacements.

Sea bass fishing is one place where tandem-tied rig will cause grief—this applies particularly when wrec fishing. For my money, I believe it is best to use th common deep-sea rig wherever sea bass are sought. Thi consists of tying the bottom hook a snell's length above th sinker, and the second just high enough to clear the lowe one without tangling. You will find that when wrec fishing, most of your sea bass will grab the high hook.

Because sea bass are blessed with a large mouth fishermen have much leeway in hook selection. The onl type to be avoided are those with long shanks. Not that yo won't get action on these—sea bass are anything but lin shy—but long shanked hooks are heavy and the top one i quite apt to snarl about your main line when weighted wit bait.

For all around sea bass fishing, it is hard to beat regular-shanked Sproat hook in sizes 3/0 to 5/0, with 4/ preferred. You can substitute 5/0 Limericks or O'Shaugh nessys, #4 Virginias or 3/0 Beaks and still do all right.

Because the best sea bass fishing is found i obstructed areas, you should select a sinker that will hav less tendency to snag. My preference in these places ha always been the bank style, but any kind will do if it isn broad-sided. Snagging is common throughout the day, bu why go out of your way to make it easy.

The same applies when rigging-up. My advice is t stay away from any and all hardware. Remember th bottom fisherman's adage: the less hardware, the bette Just tie your hooks to the main line at the appropriat places with simple one-inch loops made with double overhand knots.

Sea bass are greedy; which means that you hav much bait selection. I believe more sea bass are caught o

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PENN REELS

Shown: Penn 500SL Jigmaster

skimmer and squid than any other bait. Bass will also accept live killies, cut crab, and fish strips with equal relish. Unless you are interested in large humpback sea bass and specifically bring along some frisky oversize killies for that purpose, it is best to stick with the more common baits. You'll get just as much action.

Bait should be sliced into generous pieces. Don't skimp; it seems that the bigger baits bring more action. But that doesn't mean you should load your hooks with so much bait that the bass get a free meal. Cut your bait so that it can be inhaled with little effort on the fish's part and you'll have no difficulty catching sea bass.

It isn't necessary to rear back to set the hook when you feel a bite, for by the time you are aware of the fish, it will have already gotten the hook deep inside its mouth. Just lift firmly to plant the hook.

It pays to be careful when unhooking any sea bass. Those dorsal fins come equipped with stiff, sharp spines which can easily puncture careless hands and fingers. The safest way to unhook a bass is to insert a thumb in the lower jaw. You'll find when doing this that the fish will remain quiet and is incapable of further movement. Play it safe.

Humpback sea bass are always a prize catch and years ago they were quite common. Some of the old-timers I fished with as a kid were quite proficient in the art of enticing humpbacks to the baited hook—and it is an art. It was not unusual to see these old-timers pull three to five pounders over the rail throughout the day. Most of these skilled fellows used specialized methods for these outsized fish, methods which they had honed to a fine edge. One in particular was a crackerjack at using large killies, a 1/0 Sproat, and a three-foot leader tied in about three feet above the sinker. If there were humpbacks around, and there nearly always were, this sharpie was sure to get his share.

I tried it myself from time to time, and to be honest with you, I only had mediocre success, for I could never muster the patience needed for best results. I guess at the time I was just too interested in putting average-sized fish in the bucket to spend time on the finesse that was needed.

Use the largest and **liveliest** killie you can find and run the hook in the mouth and out the gill cover. Lower the rig, put your reel into free-spool and place your thumb lightly on the spool. It may take time for a humpback to show, but when it does, it just can't resist temptation.

Once the killie is mouthed, you will feel pressure on the reel as the bass attempts to swim off with its captive. Lift your thumb and allow the line to peel off smoothly. When the fish stops, get ready. The bass is now set to turn the killie around and swallow it head-first. Before actually doing so, however, it may take out ten or more feet of line, so have patience. When swallowing is completed, you'll immediately know it for the fish will pour on the steam and head for parts unknown. All that's necessary on your part is to throw the reel into gear and stop the fish cold. Then hang on, for a large humpback is no run-of-the-mill sea bass. He'll make you sweat him out—every foot of the way.

But for ordinary fishing, you'll always get more sea bass if you jig your bait lightly with the rod tip, and you'll also get better results on a moving tide; but this doesn't mean you have to stop fishing during those slack times. Just lower a four-ounce diamond jig, preferably tipped with a piece of squid, and give it plenty of action. The fish should respond immediately.

Sea bass have been returning from the doldrums of the late sixties and early seventies. These past few years have produced some good fishing, and let's hope this summer will be like old times. There's every reason to believe this will be so.

My advice is to try it aboard a party boat specializing in this fishing. If you connect, you'll know why sea bass rank high on my list of favorites. They're a hard fish to beat.

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NATIONAL SCENE

NEWS & NOTES ON THE WORLD OF FISHING
with Al Ristori

In Memorium—Don Birkholz

A few weeks ago, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council suffered a tragic loss when Deputy Executive Director Don Birkholz, died of a cerebral hemorrhage at the age of 38. The loss of anyone at such an age is always a tragedy; yet in this case, there was a special loss felt by the fishermen of this region who Don had served so well. When the Councils were formed, Don was with NMFS, from whom he received the assignment to help with our organizational work as temporary Director. Once the Council made its choice of John Bryson as Executive Director, Don applied for the Deputy position and was selected from a strong field.

Don poured his heart and soul into the Council's work and was a familiar face at the many hearings held throughout the New York to Virginia area. Whereas other Councils are contracting out most (if not all) of their management plans, the Mid-Atlantic Council is doing this internally and there was a tremendous burden on Don to keep them all progressing smoothly. Despite the heavy work load, he encouraged our taking on bluefish, a species that may end up with a fairly complicated management plan.

On a personal basis you couldn't meet a more pleasant fellow. In the two years I knew him, I never heard him raise his voice or get into an argument. He just went about his business efficiently, taking every opinion into account and earning praise from all in the process.

In addition to his administrative talents, Don was a well-qualified marine biologist with experience in many regions of the country. A measure of the man that even those who didn't know him can understand was his adoption of a brain damaged little girl, though he and his wife had a child of their own. Don was a small man in stature, but he left some big shoes to fill!

Bluefin Tuna Legislation on the Back Burner

As noted in the last issue, the question of including bluefin tuna in the 200-Mile Limit Legislation took a back seat at last month's House Merchant Marine & Fisheries Committee hearing, while the bluefish situation was being thoroughly thrashed out. While the sportsmen and East Coast tuna seiners were at odds over the bluefish, they were united in asking for the inclusion of tuna in PI 94-265. Both groups realize that, while American sport and commercial fishermen are limited to about 2500 giant tuna per year, the Japanese longliners are able to remove about 9,000 from the Gulf of Mexico each spring due to this loophole in the law.

According to our scientists, this heavy Japanese fishing may well lead to the collapse of the fishery. The Japanese contend that taking these pre-spawning fish doesn't effect the overall population of the species. No matter which group of scientists is right, American fishermen know that they're getting short-changed in the process. If there is a conservation crises, the Japanese shouldn't be taking those fish. If the situation isn't quite as bad as we believe it to be, American fishermen should be granted larger quotas rather than allowing foreigners to harvest the surplus.

Unfortunately, the unanimous opinion of East Coast fishermen in favor of eliminating the tuna exemption was easily overcome by the testimony of two witnesses. Augie Felando, head of the powerful West Coast tuna fishermen's organization, talked about the international significance of the tuna fisheries and the far-reaching migrations of these fish. It all sounds very reasonable until you realize that the fleet Felando represents has the most horrible conservation record imaginable. Their political muscle is such that they were able to hold up the 200-Mile limit for years in order to justify their plunder of South American tuna fisheries. Their sad record in regard to the slaughter of the porpoise that lead them to schools of yellowfin tuna in the Pacific is well known. A few responsible captains make a legitimate effort to release the porpoise and kill very few, but most will get away with whatever the law allows! Despite their sad record, the tuna industry continues to wield great political power. Many of their boats are now fishing in the eastern Atlantic and while they're rapidly depleting the yellowfin tuna off Africa, there are still lots of bonito. They like the "do nothing" ICCAT authority as they can slaughter bonito to their heart's content until the bottom drops out of that resource, like all the others they've pursued.

The other nail in the tuna's coffin was driven in by Ambassador John Negroponte of the State Department. While conceding that our conservation arguments took a real beating at the last ICCAT (International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas) meeting, Mr. Negroponte argued that we should continue to fight it out in that international forum, rather than taking control of our tuna resources. While I regularly criticize the State Department's actions in fisheries matters, I do believe that they are making every legitimate attempt, within their parameters, to bring about an international conservation regime for Atlantic tunas. The only problem is that they're spitting into the wind!

ICCAT is a paper tiger, not even as effective as the late, unlamented ICNAF. There is no possibility of action through that body until an earth-shaking crisis occurs. Even then, they probably couldn't agree on what to do. In regard to the bluefin tuna, the situation is even worse since most of the countries involved in ICCAT don't fish for that species—but are available for trade-offs. Apparently all our giveaways over the years haven't earned us many friends. At the last meeting, we were lucky to get away with the current restrictions (a major burden only to us) still in place. Theoretically, this organization is also responsible for billfish, and the Japanese are constantly urging us to turn the problem over to ICCAT rather than formulating our own management plans. The classic response to this from one of our prominent biologists was that "ICCAT wouldn't do anything about marlin unless they could prove that there were only two left—and both of them were males!"

When all was said and done Chairman Leggett (D.-Cal.) commented that there didn't seem to be any problem in continuing to exclude tuna from our management authority. Despite the fact that most of the Councils have called for dropping the tuna exemption (as have such organizations as the National Coalition for Marine Conservation, Sport Fishing Institute, American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association, etc.), it appears that the Congressional battle has been lost this year, even before it really got started. The only real hope at the present time is the proposal of MAFAC, the marine fisheries advisory committee to NOAA. That group suggested amending the act to empower the Secretary of Commerce to invoke special regulations for particular species of tuna in danger of serious overfishing, in specific geographical areas. This power would be given only at the request of the appropriate Regional Fisheries Management Council, and would provide only stand-by authority to take conservation action when circumstances so warrant. This compromise may not be perfect, but it's the best chance we have of getting something done about this sad situation in the immediate future. Even if such an amendment is passed, we'll still have to hope that the Secretary of Commerce will be strong enough to take the advice of her biological experts over the desires of the State Department.

Surf Side with John Fritz

JUNE PROSPECTS

Surf fishing will reach its spring peak during this month. The activity which has been building for the past several weeks will provide the angler with many opportunities before the fishing begins to slack off with the approaching heat of summer. While numerous possibilities are afforded us this month, a few exceptional prospects stand out. The north side of Montauk opens our discussion of June's probabilities. The large crowds typical of the fall run have not formed as yet, and the heavy darters and bottle plugs can remain stowed away at home. Break out the nine and ten foot sticks equipped with reels similar to the Penn 710. The lures most often preferred are the Rebel or RedFin swimming plugs, with both the five and seven inch versions taking fish. While most of this fishing is done after dark, occasionally small white popping plugs or medium sized tin will produce in the few hours before darkness. When using a popper without results, try slowing your retrieve, letting the plug swim along the top of the water in long, slow pulls rather than the fast sharp pop normally associated with this plug. One other thought to keep in mind if the fish refuse to hit, is to switch to smaller plugs—whatever your tackle and weather conditions will allow.

This fishing can be frustrating at times because the fish are feeding on small bait. Hang in there, for in the past, fish seen breaking in the daylight which would not touch a lure were able to be enticed into hitting the plug once the sun had set.

These fish are mostly striped bass during the early part of the month, with the weakfish taking over more and more as the month progresses. The areas to work extend from Scott's to Shagwong, with the dropping tide being the most productive.

Striped bass fishing in the western and central ocean-front areas is highlighted by the bottom fishing possibilities at Breezy Point and Democrat Point. This fishing hits its peak around mid-month and is pretty much restricted to the use of sand worms. Two or three worms hooked through the mouth and out the back of the head, used on a fish finder rig equipped with a cork will account for the majority of fish taken from these areas. The shore line a few hundred yards east of the respective jetties seem to hold the most potential. Fishermen with buggies and the appropriate passes will have an advantage, since a long walk is required to reach these locations.

While high tide is preferred at Breezy, the low water tide at Democrat will allow you to cast your bait over the parallel bar which runs along the beach. A moderate southwest wind enhances your chances by pushing the bait and, therefore, the fish closer to the beach.

In years past, small bass with a handful of large fish were the rule. Last year, most of the fish were in the teens with very few small fish being taken. Although this is a bad sign, the fish this year should be larger, but in less quantities.

Probably the most fantastic action of last year took place at Democrat Point. While good fishing one year does not necessarily mean results will be guaranteed the next, it is a starting point to consider until better opportunities come along. The fish will move into an area during their migration; if the bait is present in sufficient quantities, the game fish will linger. Such was the case with the weakfish at Fire Island last June. Impressive scores were made by bottom fishermen using sand worms on fish finder rigs.

Although most fish were taken by this method, many weaks were also caught by anglers using painted tins reeled slowly along the bottom. White was the preferred color, with the J-8 style tin the most often selected choice. This action took place almost exclusively during the hours of darkness.

Long casts, which placed your rig over the parallel bar were required; therefore, heavy tackle was used for the most part. Weakfish caught on light tackle offer exciting sport, but if eleven-foot sticks are needed in order to reach the fish, the fighting ability of these fish is diminished significantly. While I did not see it used in the front last year, I believe small plugs on tackle suitable for Montauk's north side could be used here. A calm night with a gentle surf would be necessary whereby one could wade to the bar on low water and work the trough lying on the ocean-side.

If strong southerly winds coincide with your time off, proceed east to Montauk where light tackle can be used to catch weaks along the north side. Often these fish are lying close along the beach during the night where they can be caught using small floating swimmers. The calm waters in the rocky areas between the Oyster Pond and North Bar were productive in past years before the gill-netters started setting their nets in this fruitful area. Now most activity is centered around North Bar, False Bar and Shagwong. On a few occasions in the past, heavy tackle and large darters were required to pull fish out of the distant rips at North Bar or Shagwong. If light plugs are not scoring on the fish, switch to the heavy stuff; maybe the fish are lying in the rip further off the beaches.

It is during this time of the year that the fluke start moving into the inlets and bays of Long Island. The surf caster has many opportunities to cash in on this fine action. Montauk's Shagwong Point is a prime location to load up your freezer using small tins or bucktails fished close to the bottom. After fishing the darkness for sport on weaks and bass, the pleasant days can be spent fishing for fluke.

Those of you who prefer to fish closer to home can try for fluke in the Fire Island Inlet or in the State Channel from Captree to the west. The standard fluke baits will work, but for more sport, cast bucktails adorned with strips of bait using light tackle. The bottom of the State Channel contains many obstructions, but the inlet waters behind Robert Moses State Park is a good area to try this method. On the outgoing tide, you'll see hundreds of boats drifting in this sector and catching fish.

As stated in the beginning of this article, many opportunities are open to surf fishermen this month. If a proven method of yesteryear becomes futile, be ready to change your technique and location. Beaches and bait supplies change from year to year. The fisherman ready to take advantage of a new situation will experience better fishing, while broadening his outlook and sharpening his skills. This might sound like a cop-out after stating several areas to fish, but as any experienced fisherman knows the only thing certain in fishing is the uncertainty. Remember back in the old days when bluefish invaded our beaches in June? Who knows? Maybe we'll be pleasantly surprised this year.

Sand Eel EXPLOSION!!!

by Ron Onorato

It was a scene quite like nothing I had experienced before. The water was black with sand eels; and every so often flashes of silver would charge through the black mass and send the silvery bait fish flying. The paper read-out of the depth recorder marked a solid wall of bait and feeding fish from top to bottom, and the action was so frantic, one would think he was mackerel fishing. But instead of mackerel, it was big weakfish that came flying over the rails. The location of this action was a patch of water seven or eight miles east-southeast of Montauk Point, and it lasted for weeks.

The handwriting was on the wall: a whole new phase of fishing had developed on Long Island, and it is directly attributable to the resurgence of the sand eels. From one end of Long Island to the other, the sand eels came—and they stayed; and the game fish that feed so heavily also came and stayed. In the western end of Long Island Sound, you could have walked across the harbors on the backs of the sand eels. All along the south shore, schools of bluefish and weaks would be ripping into the sand eels anywhere from Rockaway to Shinnecock. At the Tin Can Grounds, thousands of big stripers were devastating the sand eel population that set up residence there. And finally, out at Montauk, the cod and pollack stuffed themselves for two months on foot-long sand eels that were camped out south of Block Island.

The sand eels were a welcome replacement for the diminishing stocks of other bait fish, such as spearing, anchovies, and bunkers. The big three—bass, bluefish, and weakfish—turned their attention away from these diminished supplies of bait fish, and zeroed right in on the sand eels. Now with reduced pressure on these dwindled stocks, perhaps they, too, will be replenished like the sand eels.

The sand eel explosion created some substantial changes throughout the fishing and tackle industry. Along the south shore, the party boats were running themselves weary trying to keep up with the schools of blues that were feeding on the sand eels. With the exception of nighttime fishing, very seldom did the blues respond to the time-honored bunker chum. When the fish were on bait, they ignored the chum and would only hit certain artificial lures. Many of the private boatmen reaped a harvest with the umbrella rigs, while the chum boats were scratching just a few fish. The fishing tackle manufacturers responded to the call with a whole new line of lures meant to simulate the sand eel.

One of the oldest lures around that was meant to imitate the sand eel was the plain chromed diamond jig. This jig has been around the waterfront scene for the longest period of time, and has its origin from the Sheepshead Bay-Tin Can Grounds area. Although it was widely used at Montauk, it wasn't until the past few years that it became widely used on both the north and south shores of Long Island.

One of the early jigs on the market was the Bridgeport Diamond Jig. This chrome-plated piece of metal was the staple lure used, but it had one main drawback—it was armed with a big treble hook, and this created some problems. First, if a bluefish took the treble hook deeply, then it would be virtually impossible to extract it from the fish's mouth. The second drawback was that if a fish was hooked lightly, then it would be able to get leverage against the body of the jig and twist the hook from its mouth before it could be landed. Today's Bridgeport jig can be bought with a single hook.

The diamond jig that is effective and that has eliminated the treble hook is the Ava jig. This jig has a superior chrome-plating that will stand up to many of the savage bluefish hits, and is equipped with a free-swinging single hook attached to the body of the jig by means of a small barrel swivel. When the fish takes the hook, it no longer is able to get the leverage against the body of the jig.

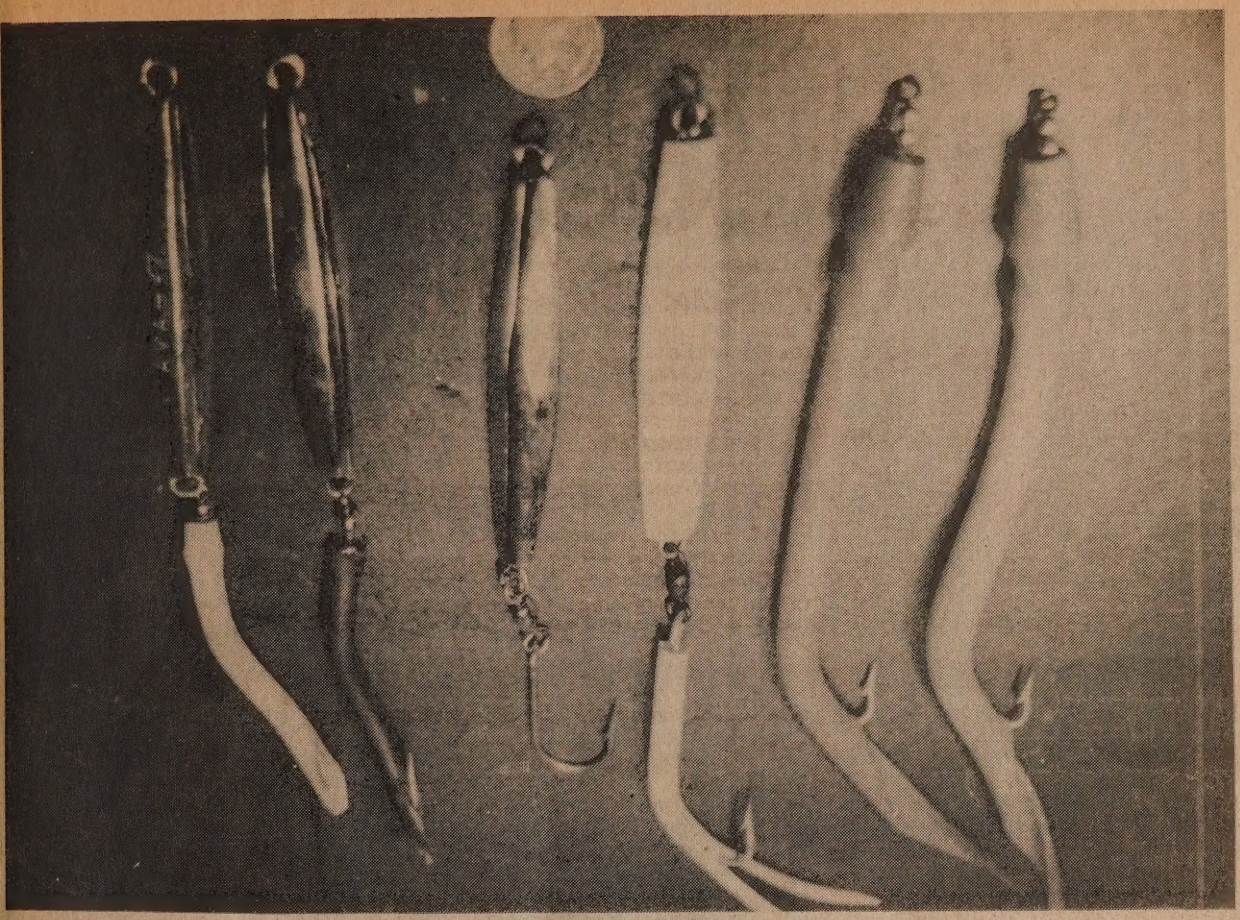
Enterprising fishermen worked out all sorts of variations with the diamond jig in an effort to enhance its effectiveness. Some painted the body of the jig, while others put heat shrinkable tubing onto the body of the jig. Some fishermen even went through the effort of removing the free-swinging single hook and replaced it with a small surgical tube lure. All of these modifications worked with some degree of effectiveness.

The latest addition to the sand eel lures are the metal jigs manufactured by the Tri-Fin Tackle Company. Their new Sand Eel Jig is without question the most reasonable facsimile to the real thing that has yet been manufactured. These new metal lures are molded with a curve into the body, and come in several colors—all of them resembling a live sand eel. This new lures looks like the big thing this year.

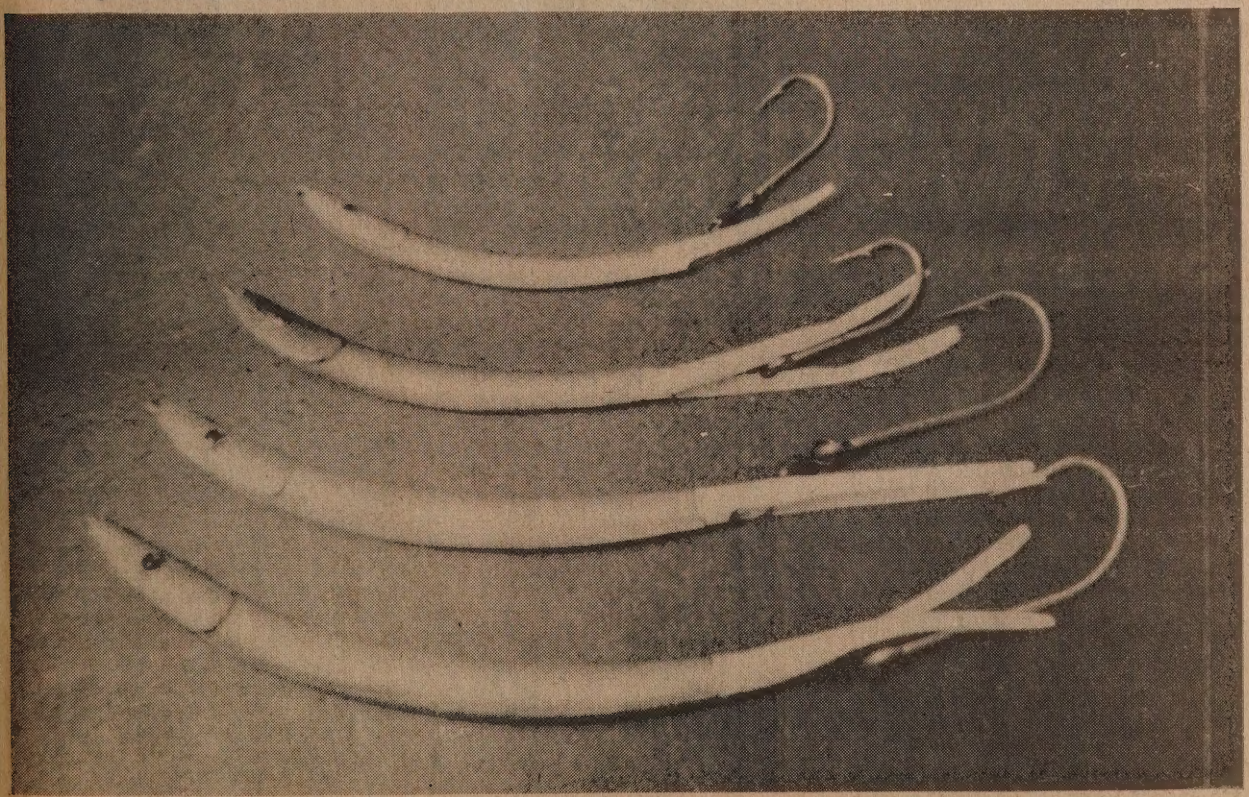
With the exception of these lures, the only other artificial that will take fish when they are feeding on sand eels, aside from umbrella rigs, are the homemade bucktail sand eel jigs. Aside from the effectiveness of these lures, the ease with which they are used makes them even more popular with the angling fraternity. For the most part, just about anyone who knows how to reel in a sinker can effectively use the diamond jig or sand eel jig and catch bluefish and weakfish. It takes considerably more skill to employ these lures against the striped bass, than it does for the weaks and blues, although stripers are suckers for a properly worked jig. We'll limit the discussion to bluefish and weakfish, and leave the jig fishing for striped bass for another article.

First, let's take a look at some of the basic tackle requirements that will get you going into the proper deployment of jig fishing. First and foremost, is your rod and reel. Whatever your feelings are about them, please leave the spinning tackle for other things. For whatever reasons, many fishermen insist on using spinning tackle with the jigs, when they should be using conventional outfits. When you're going after bluefish, you're going to have to take into consideration such things as the size of the fish being caught, what type of boat you're fishing from, and the wind and sea conditions. Generally speaking, a thirty pound outfit will carry you through most of the different situations that might be encountered.

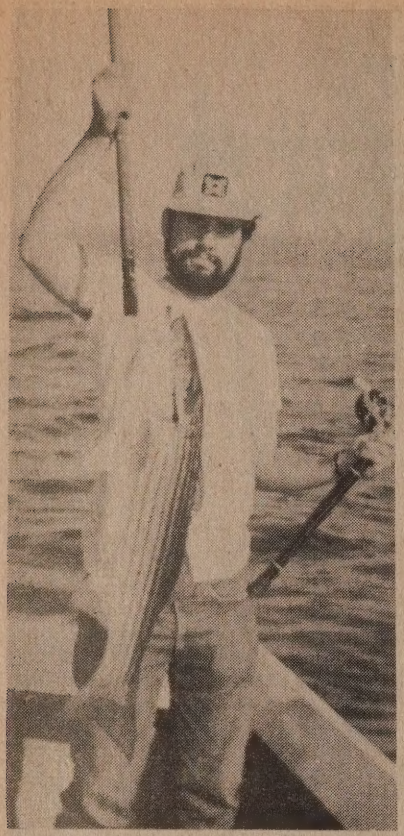
There are two reels that are favored for this type of fishing, and both are made by Penn reels. When you're going after big fish in deep water, the Penn 3/0 special Senator with the high speed retrieve is the ticket. This reel is a real workhorse and winches up big gobs of line in a hurry. When you're going after smaller fish in shallower water, then the Penn Squidder #140 is a very suitable reel. You should spool the 3/0 with thirty pound mono, while you can use



Here are some favorites to use when sand eels abound (left to right): *Banana* Tube Lures; *Banana Split;* Plain *Ava* Jig; *Ava* Jigs with stinger hooks.



The best facsimiles of sand eels are the new *Sand Eel Jigs* by *Tri-Fin Lures.* They almost look alive!



Author with a nice bass taken on an *Ava* diamond jig.

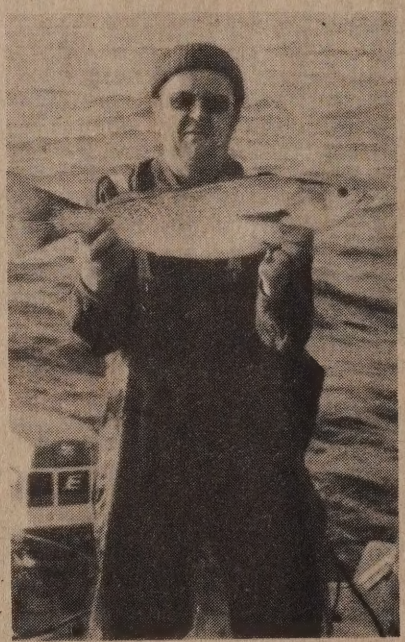
twenty or twenty-five pound line on the squidder.

In most cases, the jig is tied directly to the mono line on your reel without any snap, swivel, or wire leader. If you find the bluefish especially tough and are losing jigs at a rapid rate, then you'll have to add a three-foot length of forty or fifty pound mono leader. You're still going to lose a few jigs, but the heavier mono will hold up better than the lighter thread. Just make sure you retie the jig after a couple of fish or if the mono feels frayed. The use of a wire leader ahead of the jig diminishes its effectiveness considerably; so there is no point in using one. What is the sense of saving a jig, if you're not going to catch any fish? If you're going after bass or weakfish, you'll seldom have to go to any leader at all. If the fish are especially thick and water clarity is poor, the fish aren't always leader shy, but when the fish are picky or if the water is clear, they become very wary of leaders.

Locating the schools of fish has been simply a matter of finding the sand eel schools. Out at Montauk, the sand eels stayed pretty much in one general area for much of the summer. They would move a couple of miles each day, but not much more than that; so finding them wasn't too difficult. The same was pretty much true at the Tin Can Grounds; the sand eels move around very little and remained in the same general area for a couple of weeks. The bluefish boats had a little harder time of things because the voracious blues would keep the sand eels on the go all the time; so they had to be searched out each day at different spots along the south shore.

Once the sand eels were located, it didn't take too long to find out if there were any fish feeding on them. If there was surface action, you could be sure that there would be better action down below. Even though there may appear to be a lot of fish near the top, those fish only represent a small fraction of the total picture. By far and away, most of the fish are found close to the bottom up to the mid-water levels.

The way to find the feeding zone of the fish was to lower the jig all the way to the bottom and rapidly retrieve the jig to the surface. This allows the jig to cover all the possible feeding



George Oliver with big weakfish taken on *Ava* diamond jigs.

zones of the fish. If you're fishing from a party boat, then there's no problem, the skipper will put you into the fish. On your own, you'll have to keep a keen eye for surface action, as well as printouts from the depth recorder. If the paper marks some bait, then your best bet is to make several long drifts through the area and see what develops.

Once you've located a body of fish, and there is no surface action, then you should do one of two things to make sure that you don't lose the fish. If you're reasonably close to the beach, try to set up a couple of shore ranges and keep on working them. If you're out of the sight of land, then you'll have to deploy a marker buoy. Last year on many occasions, both the weaks and blues could be found ranging the open ocean far out of the sight of land.

If the fish are especially thick, then you can improve your catch by adding a small surgical tube ahead of the jig, very similar to that which is used for mackerel fishing. Green, red, or white tubes are attached to the mono line about fifteen inches above the jig. You still-fish the whole rig the same way you would otherwise without the tubes. Again, the secret of success was keeping the jig in the productive feeding level as much as possible. Sometimes the fish would hit a rapidly retrieved jig, while at other times, a moderate retrieve would get the most action.

In order to ensure a successful outing, you should have a couple of different kinds of jigs at your disposal. For just about all situations, four or six ounce jigs will fill the bill. About the only time you'll need heavier jigs would be at Montauk, and even then, that wouldn't be too often. When the fish are doting on the really tiny two and three-inch-long sand eels, then a small two or three ounce jig should be deployed, and you can use correspondingly lighter tackle also.

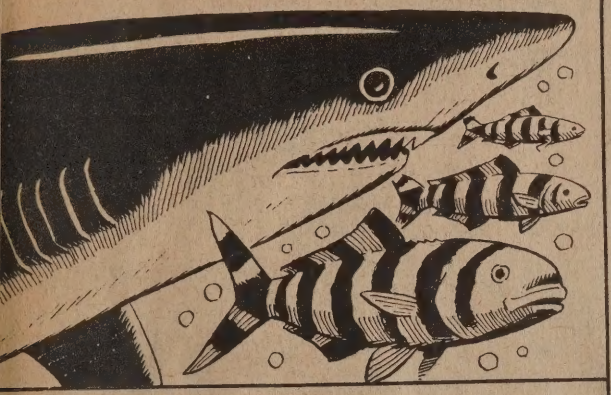
With the large quantity of juvenile sand eels in evidence in many areas of Long Island, it appears that there will be a continued surplus of this bait fish for a couple of years to come. If you want to get in on this action, make sure that you have some of these jigs in the tackle box every time you set out on a trip.

Roy Bennett with a big bluefish that fell for an *Ava* diamond jig.

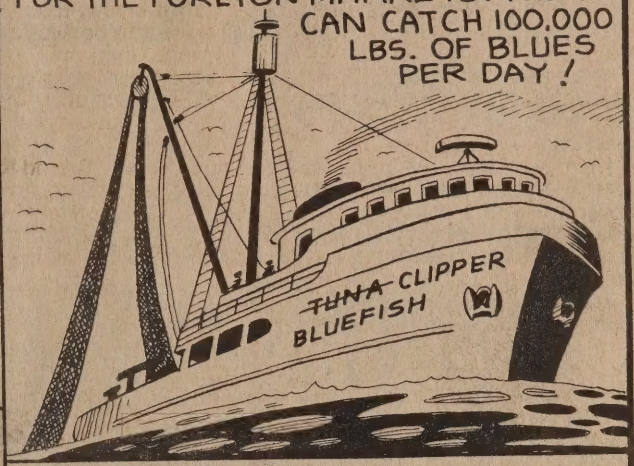
FISH & GAME NEWS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

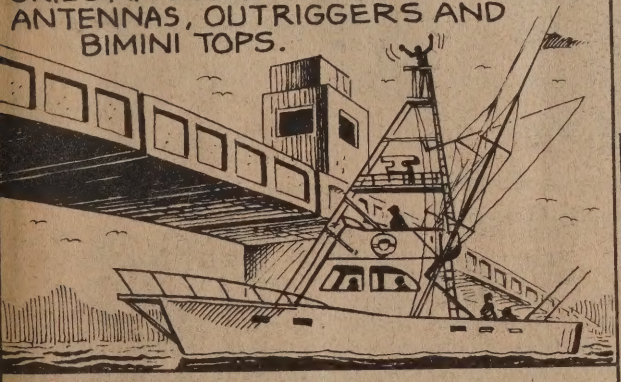
THE BAYSHORE MAKO TOURNAMENT, SPONSORED BY THE BAY SHORE TUNA CLUB, WILL BE HELD JUNE 24-25 AT THE BAYSHORE MARINA. THIS SHARK CLASSIC ATTRACTS ANGLERS AND FISH SCIENTISTS FROM ALL OVER THE U.S.A.



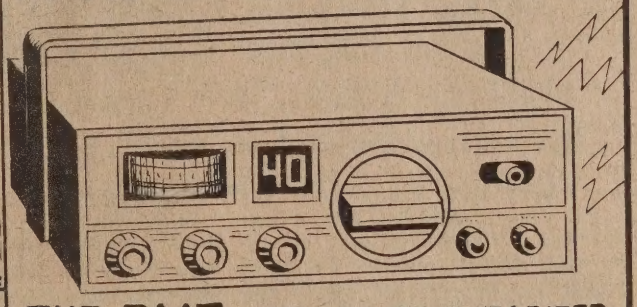
TUNA BOATS MAY GET THE BLUES IS WHAT'S ALARMING EAST COAST FISHERMEN AS THE WEST COAST PURSE SEINERS SWITCH FROM DEPLETED PACIFIC TUNA TO ATLANTIC BLUEFISH FOR THE FOREIGN MARKETS. THEY CAN CATCH 100,000 LBS. OF BLUES PER DAY!



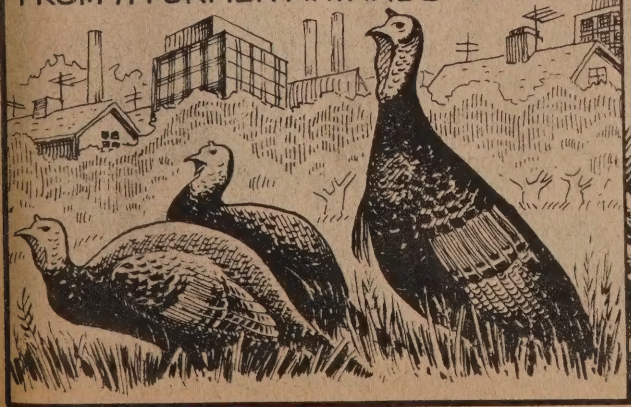
U.S. COAST GUARD REGULATIONS NOW REQUIRE BOATS WITH TALL ANTENNAS TO LOWER THEM TO PASS UNDER HIGHWAY AND RAILWAY BRIDGES. BOAT ACCESSORIES AFFECTED ARE TV AND RADIO ANTENNAS, OUTRIGGERS AND BIMINI TOPS.



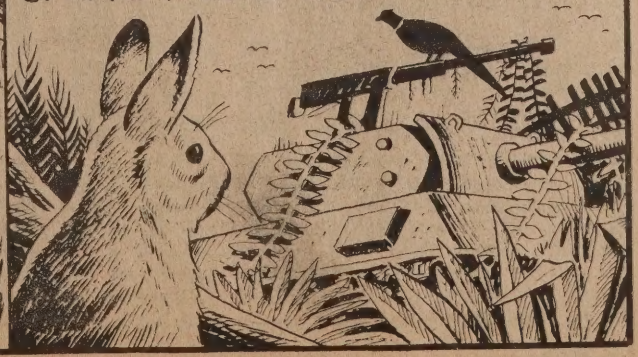
CB MAFIA BASE ON CHANNEL 12-IT'S A SHE - IS DRIVING L.I. SPORTFISHERMEN FROM 23 TO 40 CHANNEL SETS ON SOUTHSHORE WATERS. THE LADY TALKS ALL DAY TO OCEAN PKWY. COMMUTERS AND NO BOAT CAN COMPETE!



WILD TURKEYS, AFTER 150 YRS. HAVE RETURNED TO WANTAGH, L.I. IN AN AREA NORTH OF THE SUNRISE HWY. AND EAST OF THE WANTAGH PKWY. THE TWO DOZEN 12-20 LB. BIRDS ARE BELIEVED DESCENDED FROM TWO WILD ESCAPEES FROM A FORMER ANIMAL SHELTER.



THE DMZ, KOREA'S DIMILITARIZED ZONE, 151 MILES LONG AND 2½ MILES WIDE HAS BECOME ONE OF ASIA'S PREMIER WILD LIFE SANCTUARIES. A TOTAL NO MAN'S LAND WITH NO POLLUTION OR PESTICIDES. IT HAS BECOME A HOME FOR RABBITS, DUCKS, PHEASANTS, DEER, LYNX, TIGERS AND A VARIETY OF RARE WILD BIRDS.



Ronnie's Clam Bake

by Ronnie DeLuca

Okay, Gals (and Guys), by now you should be able to maneuver your boat with some authority (that is, if you practiced).

I will now try to help you catch a fishing disease called "Striped Bass Fever." The first symptom is loss of sleep! The first thing you must learn about striped bass fishing is **patience**. You also have to put in lots of time. Forget about sleeping late, the early man (or woman) catches the fish.

In this article I will go into chumming. The equipment you will need is minor: a rod that you would use for flounder or fluke; a reel with fifteen pound test line (I use a Garcia Ambassadeur 6000). If you are going to fish the bridges, you may need twenty pound test line, although I use fifteen; 3/0 Mustad beaked hooks (short shank); split shots. (I use an assortment of rubber core); clam chum (I use two different kinds: Jersey Bellies and Long Island bellies). I chum with the Long Island bellies and put the Jersey bellies on the hook (they stay on better). If you can't get both, don't worry about it. They are both good; large chum pot; net, and gaff (I use a hand gaff when chumming).

I prefer to leave the dock as soon as the sun starts to come up. Most of the time I leave in the dark.

One story I must tell you. I had borrowed a friend's rod and reel for my girl friend, Anita Bach of Bellmore. I had just started fishing and didn't have the collection of rods I have today. Well, I put the rods in the rod holders and as I started to leave the dock, the dock line got caught on the rod I borrowed and knocked it overboard. Needless to say, I was very upset. Fortunately, it was not too deep as it was low tide. Anita stripped down to her underwear and went overboard to retrieve it. Well, she got it, but could not get back in the boat (we did not have a floating dock at the marina). The sun was coming up and Anita was standing there in her underwear covered with grease and oil and slime. She finally climbed into the rowboat that was two boats down and climbed up on the dock. (I wish I had a camera that morning!) She put her clothes back on over her wet and dirty underwear and off we went, laughing all the way! So remember, watch those rods!

I prefer chumming the State Channel. It is not as difficult to anchor in the open channel as it is at the bridges and you can always find a spot.

Ronnie in a familiar pose: Rod, reel, and chum working the State Channel.

You will notice that there are little "**drain offs**" along the banks. These are indentations where the water goes into the land and creates little streams. These are very good spots to chum. The bait fish go in at high water and come out at low. The bass wait at the edge of these openings for the bait fish to come out. Another things to look for is "rips." When the bait fish get caught in these rips, they get thrown about and confused. The bass, or any other fish, just stay there and wait to prey on them.

Anchor up along the edge of the grass. I must warn you not to anchor too close. One time I was anchored along the edge when a large boat came by, throwing a big wake and put me right up on the grass. Fortunately, a friend came by and towed me off. It was very embarrassing explaining how I got there.

Once you anchor up, start your chum slick going. I use my hand to squeeze out the chum into the water, but you can use a ladle. As soon as the chum is out of sight, drop another handful in. Put a piece of clam belly on the hook, slide it up the line a little and put another piece on; then slide the first piece back on the hook. Keep your reel in free spool and with your fingers, keep letting line out. You control the line with your fingers so it doesn't run out too fast. After you have let out about 125 feet without getting a bite, reel in and try again. If the current is running too fast, use a split shot to sink your line, or strip out some line, lift your rod, strip out some line, and lift again: this will also sink your bait. You can also use a chum pot at this time. Put some frozen chum in the pot (I use quart milk containers to freeze the chum in) and tie it on a side or stern cleat. It will defrost a little at a time.

As soon as you get a bite, set the hook and be prepared for a heck of a good fight! Once you get the fish to the boat, use a net or a small hand gaff if the fish is on the large side.

If you would rather fish the bridges, make sure you anchor away from the cables that run across. You can either fish into the bridge or away from it. Fishing into the bridge, you will lose more fish than if you fish on the down-current side. Many times the fish head for the pilings and break off. If you are lucky, they will swim out.

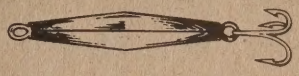
I usually tie up under the bridge with "bridge pins." I use steel rods

that have an eye on the end. You can use many different kinds. On each pin, I have about twelve feet of line. Try to get there at slack water; so watch your tide charts. Once the current starts running, it is difficult to tie up. I run up to the first concrete pillar and stick the pin in. If there is no place to stick it in, you will have to wrap it around the pillar. Drop back and leave the line loose. Now run up to the next pillar and tie up. Even out your line, drop the boat back a little (if a boat goes by, you will not be smacked up against the pillar) and start chumming. Here you might need a little heavier split shot.

The best time to fish the bridges is during the change of tide—be it flood or ebb. Once the current really starts running, it gets more difficult to feel your bites. Your chum will also disappear too fast. You will get about one-and-a-half hours on each tide, although sometimes you can catch fish right through.

One thing I hope you will remember: be courteous! If another boat is chumming an area or opening in a bridge, do not run up his chum slick. He has spent a lot of time building up that slick. When chumming for bass, you have quite a large area to do it in. You can start at the Fire Island Inlet, or the Robert Moses Bridge and work your way down the State Channel all the way to Jones Inlet.

When releasing a fish, if it is gut-hooked, just cut the line as close to the mouth as possible. If you can remove the hook quickly, do it. If the hook remains, hopefully it will eventually rot or fall out. The main thing is to get the fish back in the water as soon as possible. Sometimes you might have to "swim" the fish to get water through its gills. This will only take a few minutes. Remember: sixteen inches is the minimum! I usually throw back the sixteen inch ones and keep the seventeens. Somehow or other, it makes me feel better.



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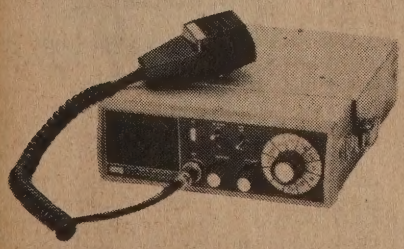

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Nocturnal Weakfishing at the Bridges

by Dick Mermon

Within Mother Nature's water world there are many species of fish, but only about half are both daylight, as well as, nocturnal feeders. During the bright of the day, the activity is in full swing by all classes of fish. Soon after darkness descends, only certain predators prowl.

Northern sea trout, or weakfish, become one of these prowling night predators after spawning. These fish will forage during the daytime hours, but are forceful in their feeding habits pending darkness. It seems once dusk has engulfed an area, the surrounding waters become still or free from noise. The weakfish venture forth from their deep, daylight hiding hang-outs to begin their prowling subsistance. Boat traffic, water temperature, and daylight, combine to encourage night feeding activity after spawning. The Greek God Morpheous (God of Sleep), has no effect on these fish after nightfall as he does on the other species.

The time period of this nocturnal activity begins during the month of June, and lasts well into September. A favorite location where these fish appear after dark is around the south shore of Long Island's causeway bridges.

Lights from the roadway spans shine onto the water below, attracting various prey. Weakfish hide within the dark of the bridge itself, or off in the black shadow beyond the span. Surface bait fish, crabs, worms, and shrimp are carried down-current, reaching a point where darkness becomes light. This is the section of "no-man's land." It is the point of no return for many of these baits.

Eyes of the bait prey that come out of the night-blackened waters are still accustomed to darkness. As this quarry is carried with the current, it reaches the brightly illuminated area just ahead of the span itself. At the shadow line on the water, created by the edge of the bridge within the blackened area, they fall prey to awaiting and prowling weakfish. The eyes of the sea trout under the bridge have already adapted to the darkness where they swim. Bait coming through dark waters into bright sections, and then quickly back into darkness, cannot see what is beyond the wall of light, awaiting them. Their

Rich Caster unhooks a nocturnal caught weakfish which took a sand worm on a high hook rig.

eyes do not react as fast as they should. Hence, weakfish use this situation to their advantage.

Nocturnal weakfishing is a very relaxing and productive method of fishing. To enjoy it to its utmost, it must be conducted from an anchored boat, where one may sit back and relax after the bait is presented to the proper location. The situation calls for the anchoring ahead of any illuminated bridge—or for that matter, even securing the boat to the pilings under the bridge. No matter which way the boat is secured, it must face into the current. If the boat is tied under the bridge, the stern will face out from the bridge and the baits fished away from the span itself. When anchored up-current of the bridge, the stern should be no closer than twenty yards from any lighted area.

Even though weakfish feed upon various types of bait at this time of the year, choice temptations are sand or bloodworms. Many fishermen who know the procedure of night-feeding weaks will use a high hook or "three feet off the bottom" rig (see diagram).

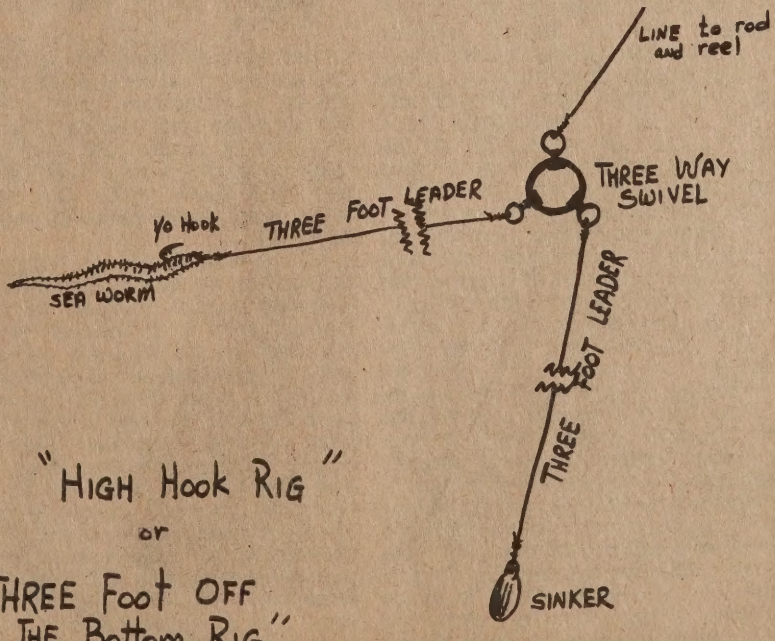
A single worm is threaded onto a 1/0 hook of the rig. With the proper weight sinker for the current where you are fishing attached to the bottom leader, the bait is permitted to descend to the bottom behind the stern of the boat. The method of getting the bait towards the bridge (if anchored in front of the bridge) is called "walking" the bait along. By lifting the rod tip very slightly and feeling the sinker bounce on the bottom when it is dropped back down, indicates the sinker has reached its destination. As the tip is lifted and lowered again, line is gradually let out, allowing the rig to travel with the current. Constant pressure on the sinker must be maintained at all times or the swift waters flow will carry the line from the reel freely, producing a line-belly from the rod tip to the sinker. If the tip of the rod does not telegraph the sinker's bounce, then there is an excess of slack line which must be reeled in. There must be a constant companionship between the bouncing of the sinker, release of line, and sensitivity of the rod tip.

There is a point where the bait and sinker fails to respond to further advancement of walking out. Henceforth, it is as far back as it should be. The secret of catching night feeding weakfish at bridges requires knowing how far back the bait is, and getting a feel for when it reaches the shadow-line of the span. That shadow-line is the location where the bait must be held. If it passes beyond this point, the fish will not be able to find the bait as readily as if it were held at the beginning of the darkness. At this point, the worm need not be lifted, jigged, or bounced around to attract sea trout.

When weakfish strike at a worm rigged in this fashion, the feeling is a slight tap on the rod tip. When you

(Continued on page 41.)

Rich Caster and Joe DeFalco look over the nights weakfish catch of fish from four to six pounds. Even a small bluefish was caught on a walked-out sand worm towards the bridge.



"HIGH Hook RIG"
or
"THREE Foot OFF THE Bottom RIG"

A View from the Bridge—Verrazano That Is!!!

by Robert H. Werner, Jr.

If we care to admit it, we are all very fortunate having an opportunity to fish; especially so if the water is practically at one's doorstep, as it is for me. With conditions being right—be it the tide, the weather, the season (as well as the correct bait or lure to interest the fish with)—one can catch fish to one's heart's content. Almost in reflection, it might be just the time to acknowledge the attributes of New York City's Lower Bay (also called New York Bight; often called "the fish capital of the world") by sharing some of the joys experienced by a couple of somewhat dedicated fishermen—albeit not always as successful.

Al Cutler, my son Andy, and I fish out of the south shore of Staten Island—one of two Boroughs of New York (Brooklyn being the other) that immediately overlook the Lower Bay. Al's boat, Buttons II, a well cared for twenty-five foot open sportfishermen, is out of the Prince's Bay Boatmen's Association situated at Lemon Creek. Our boat, Pilar, is a twenty-six foot sportfisherman with a flying bridge and is berthed at Mansion Marina, Great Kills Harbor. From either boat basin, we are less than thirty to forty-five minutes away from most of the "hotspots," be it Chapel Hill Channels (north and south); Hoffman and Swinburne Islands; West Bank, Old Orchard and Romer Shoal Lighthouses; Round Shoals (middle grounds), Raritan Bay; Norton Point and Gravesend Bay, Brooklyn; as well as Flynns Knoll, and Sandy Hook, New Jersey. In actuality, these locations are all within eight to ten nautical miles from either mooring—a distance just long enough to either talk enthusiastically about the fishing trip (sometimes called pumping up the adrenalin), or the chance to muse over a cup of hot coffee enjoying the sun as it peeks up over the skyline.

Fishing has been fairly good, but it didn't quite start out that way—not for us. For several weeks last May, my son and I repeatedly worked some of the better known haunts for the first run of striped bass, without success. Trolling, as is our custom, we employed our usual 150 feet of monel lines with an assortment of red, green and brown surgical tubings, but it wasn't until toward the end of the month, that we had our first fish in the box: a majestic white to silver black, striped beauty. We had switched to white-headed black-jointed surgical tubing and before the day was over, had several other good hits on the same lure. Later, toward the end of the week, we heard that the first run of larger bass had been reported caught between Old Orchard and West Bank Lights. Our hopes were raised in anticipation of the next trip.

Author with 15 lb. alligator caught near Verrazano Narrows.

As my wife enjoys an occasional fishing trip, we went out together the following Sunday, fishing the Old Orchard area. We continued to use the black-jointed surgicals methodically working back and forth between the lights, most often in perpendicular fashion to the beach. We hadn't been working more than fifteen to twenty minutes like this, when the port side 4/0 reel went off. To my dying day that heavy purring-buzzing otherwise indescribable sound of the click ratchet will always set my heart pounding and this time was no exception. It had to be a big one. Ruth had been up at the steering wheel since I had asked for a breather, but if the truth be known, her seek-and-search mission—an ability to bring us over fish—had always been better than mine, and I figured we needed her good luck. The bass came in heavily and I knew I had my hands full. However, there are days in a man's life when in doing so many things wrong, he just has to expect to pay the piper. In my zeal to rush in my prize, the first thing I did wrong was to clamp down too far on the star drag which resulted in my bringing a green fish to the boat. Then, after succeeding in getting hold of the fifteen foot leader, I hadn't released the tension on the drag so that when I started to bring in the leader in hand-over-hand fashion, the lunker (a good thirty pounder) with its dorsal fin now just breaking the surface of the water, suddenly spooked when it saw the boat for the first time. Lurching blindly, the bass suddenly took off bull-like fashion, in its search for freedom. As it lunged out of the water, the fifty pound test monofilament leader severed as it cut across its gill plate cover. And that was it! Maybe others can learn something from the mistakes I made that day: mistakes I've made up my mind never to make again.

Trolling for fluke can be fun, too. Andy and I were working Chapel Hill North Channel one morning not too long ago for weakfish, in somewhat hazy fog, along with numerous other boats and we had some success. But even with several weaks in the box we decided to move on to south to Flynns Knoll where there might be less congestion. We continued to use the same lures—red and green lead-headed surgicals. The depth at the Knoll fluctuates by several feet and for that reason our lures often bounced on the bottom, especially in turns, resulting pleasantly enough, in a catch of two very fine fluke, a couple of five pounders. And since there isn't anything much better than a plate of sauteed fluke fillets as far as we're concerned, we finished that day in grand style.

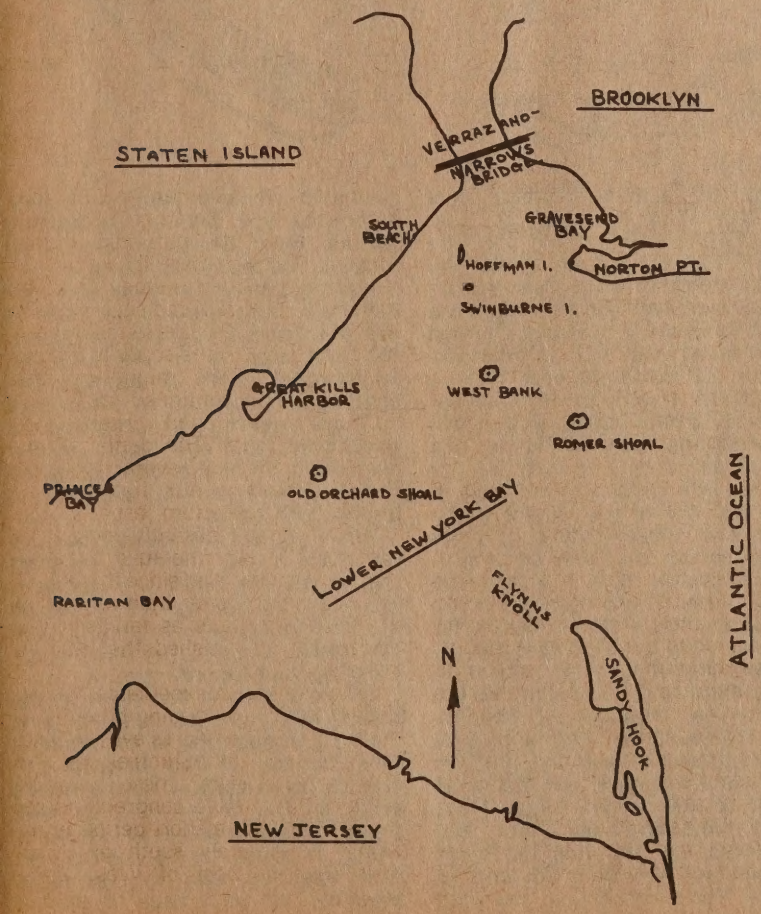
Everyone has to experience fishing in giant schools of feeding bluefish at least once. Excitement is everywhere. Towards the end of summer, for the past several years, these frenzied schools of fish have congregated off Staten Island for a short period in an area approximately south of Swinburne Island, west of West Bank

ight. And interestingly, you know
ne fish are in almost before you are
ut of the slip, as hundreds upon
undreds—thousands of terns and
ea gulls emit their clarion call. With
ordes of bait fish having been driven
o the surface of the water by the
eeding blues, birds dive and sortie
bout—the scene so exciting you
lmost forget why you are there. It is
ne time when you can virtually place
nything on your hook since the fish
vill take practically anything tossed in
heir direction: another good time to
keep your feet in the boat. During our
nost recent trip, we had family guests
on board—Ruth Ann and Tom Walsh,
neither of whom had ever fished in
saltwater before. In this historical
moment, they were able to catch some
wenty, two to three pounders in
ecord time. Finally, agreeing we had
enough of a good thing, we left this
unforgettable scene, but not before
we used up the remaining film in our
cameras.

Often overlooked by some fishermen are oil slicks on the water. They can be formed in varying shapes and sizes and no matter how the winds blow, the surface of the water remains more flat than the surrounding waters. It's a belief the oil is from massacred mossbunkers, marauding bluefish having taken their toll. And to fish these areas often proves quite successful.

One particular overcast evening earlier in the year when large blues were working close in to shore, my wife and I invited 12-year-old Mike Romagnolo out on his maiden fishing trip with us. The "hotspot" was this time directly offshore approximately due west of Hoffman Island, and when we got there, several boats were working with live mossbunkers. On a hunch, we put on deep trolling plugs and were immediately rewarded with some nice sized bluefish. Truly, the joy of the trip, though, was to see Mike having the struggle of his life with a ten pounder, his man-sized waist rod holder having slipped down past his knees.

Toward the middle of September, with a day off from work, Art Oliver, my brother-in-law, came out with us for a chance to battle the blues. Art fishes quite often, but it's generally restricted to lightweight, freshwater fishing, so this trip could prove to be a treat. We headed for South Beach with a slightly overcast sky and a steady chop on the water—winds blowing fifteen to twenty mph out of the north—northeast. Gulls were seen about, but it looked more like they were resting after a good feed. The fact that they were there, though, indicated something. As we approached our destination, we saw several other boats working. Wasting no time, we immediately dropped our lines over, electing to go with a red rubber surgical (the last one we had) and, as an additional choice—a silver spoon. No sooner had the lines settled when the red surgical was hit: hit hard—then nothing. On a hunch, we brought the line in only to find the entire hook gone, completely pulled out. Switching to a black-jointed surgical proved immediately successful as we gaffed a ten pounder. Then Art's pole with the silver spoon took a turn and he met with his first big fish—a fourteen pound bulldogged fighting demon. He really had his hands full. Five more fish filled the box as we headed for home, but not before we had another advocate to our local saltwater fishing.



Overlooked by many boat fishermen is the need to know where you are—as well as how to get back. Most often in the spring, fog can sock in pretty fast—one time when the chart can be of little assistance. That is unless you've made preparations. About the simplest way to prepare for such an emergency is to have bearings on the dozen or so fishing spots charted before hand on something like a 3"x5" index card (covered with plastic, it should last for years). Only "one way" is absolutely necessary, since the compass readings can be reversed for the return trip. It's a good rule not to go out in bad weather, but should fog suddenly develop at least you'll have the comfort of knowing how to get back home again.

In clear view of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, which connects Brooklyn to Staten Island, is Norton Point, Brooklyn. Within a radius of a mile or so, it has some of the finest fishing anywhere, although relatively little fished. Al Cutler and I have often seen head boats as well as chartered fishing boats pass right by to points south, seeking greener pastures. And as literally millions of people go about their business—cars, buses, and trucks, travelling over the bridge while domestic and foreign ships pass under, and planes drone by overhead, on most days we are out there alone enjoying the best of both worlds. Recently, to name one account, we were fishing on the Buttons with Al's brother Fred, and Joe Quilty, fishing the outgoing tide. We were using three rods trolling white bunker spoons when we boated fifteen bluefish—affectionately called alligators—ranging in weight from ten to thirteen pounds. On one other occasion Andy and I on the Pilar, fishing an incoming tide midday, using red and green rubber tubes, brought in a mess of weakfish—tide-runners going eight pounds apiece. Closer to the Island, and even closer to the bridge, we know of schooling striped bass caught in even greater quantities. Admittedly fishing in this area may not be better than anywhere else in the Lower Bay. However, there are few places in the world where one can quite match this spectacle: fine fishing in good water, and would you believe it—right at the doorstep of some eight million people.

Make Your Own—
BEAD CHAIN TUBE LURES

by Gary Soucie

There are as many ways to make tube lures as there are ways to skin a cat. Any number of things might be used, but my favorites are flat-top leadhead jigs, wobble plates, and wobbling spoons. Each of these front-runners will shake the daylights out of your tubing, producing a violent wriggling that resembles an eel that's trying frantically to escape.

The flat-top jigs I'm talking about are flat on top and rounded or spoon-shaped on the bottom. As they are moved forward through the water, the resistance of the flat top causes them to sway from side to side. Jigs of this shape are available in a rather restricted range of one-and-one-quarter or one-and-one-half ounces.

Wobble plates are made by various manufacturers to activate their soft plastic eel lures. Those that come with the Alou Eel formerly distributed by Garcia are the best known, but I'm not sure they are sold separately. The face plates for Mister Twister Eee-Ills are sold separately, and you will find them in tackle shops packaged two to the card. Three sizes: one, two and three ounces.

As for spoons, the choices are almost endless. Besides weight, you will want to consider size, as the spoon has to be big enough to shake the tubing tail effectively. I like Daredevle's big Seadevle and Copy-Cat series (one, two and three ounces), the Luhr Jensen Krocodile (available in seventeen sizes, from one-sixth to seven ounces), the #5 Spoonfish (one ounce), and the Williams Giant Wabler (ounce-and-a-half), Large Whitefish (one ounce), and Flasher (one-and-a-half ounces).

Surgical tubing comes in varying sizes, colors, and qualities. The most flexible tubing usually works best. Listed sizes (3/16, 5/16, 7/16, and 3/4 inches) usually are outside diameters, and the inside diameter varies with the thickness of the tubing walls, which range from 1/32 to 1/8 inch, depending on O.D. size and manufacturer. You might use any of these sizes. Just be sure the inside diameter is large enough to let the bead chain turn freely and small enough to fit snugly on the jig head or wobble plate. Many colors are available, some with gold or silver flecks molded into the latex.

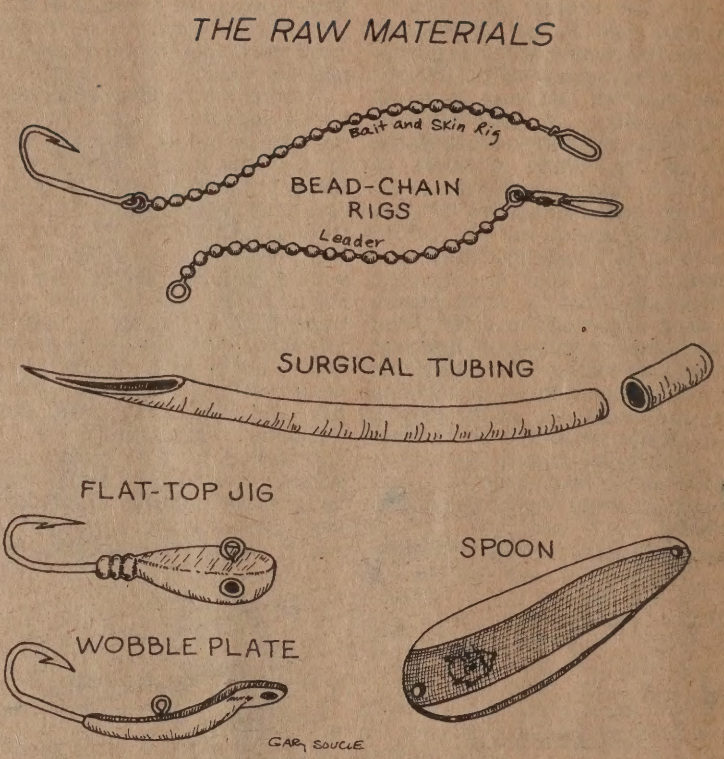
Some bead chains are made specifically for fishing by the Bead Chain Tackle Company in Bridgeport, Connecticut. They are made of strong, high-quality stainless steel with test strengths ranging from twenty-five to one hundred and fifty pounds. For these tube lures, you want to use either bead chain leaders or bead chain bait and skin rigs. The leaders have a flat, one-piece forged ring on either end, with an interlocking snap affixed to one end. They're available in lengths of three-and-a-half, six and nine inches, and in five test strengths from thirty to one hundred and twenty pounds. To use them in these lures, you will have to attach the hook of your choice to the ringed end. Heavy-duty split rings will suffice, but they may be of such large diameter they'll bulge the tubing. Better to use open-eye hooks (Mustad Salmon or Bent Limerick, for example), or to force the eyes slightly open and then crimp them back shut.

Bead Chain's bait and skin rigs are easier to use. These have O'Shaughnessy hooks (5/0, 7/0 and 8/0) already affixed to one end and the other has an integral lockfast snap instead of the forged ring. Three lengths (three-and-a-half, four, and five inches, not counting the hook) and two test strengths (25 and 75 pounds). You could rig your own bead chains of whatever lengths or test strengths you prefer, by linking various Bead Chain swivels, snap swivels, and leaders together.

Having gathered together your raw materials, including a sharp knife or pair of scissors for cutting the tubing, the first step is to measure the appropriate length of tubing. The exact length depends on which lure you are making, the method of attachment, and the length of the bead chain. Study the drawings of the completed lures and you will have no trouble with sizing.

When you cut the tubing, be sure you make a long, pointed, tapering end. If you are handy with a blade, you might try making a spiral cut, so the trailing end will flutter. Or you can make a split tail simply by bisecting your tapered end.

The first step is the same in the case of each lure; just slip the bead chain rig through the tubing, making sure the top of the tapered end extends about halfway up the hook's bend, so the tubing will be bent slightly. Water pressure will keep the tubing in place during normal use. After this step, each lure varies in assembly, so we'll have to discuss



them separately.

With the flat-top jig, the simplest assembly requires using another piece of tubing about an inch or so long. Slip this piece over the jig's hook, then run the snap end of the bead chain rig through it and attach the snap to the jig's eye. Then push the short piece of tubing up over the bead chain and the back of the jig until it is snugged securely into place. The short piece of tubing should extend back to the beginning of the hook's bend, but no farther. Clearance between the two sections of tubing will expose several shiny beads. The rear tubing should clear the jig's hook when it spins, so don't try to make the gap too short. Any rattling of the bead chain against the jig hook will add to the lure's attraction in the way the rattle chambers do that are now designed into so many plugs.

Using the wobble plate, the assembly is similar, except that the tubing will have to be flexible enough and large enough to stretch over the flat back of the plate without splitting. You might need to use a larger diameter tubing for the short piece.

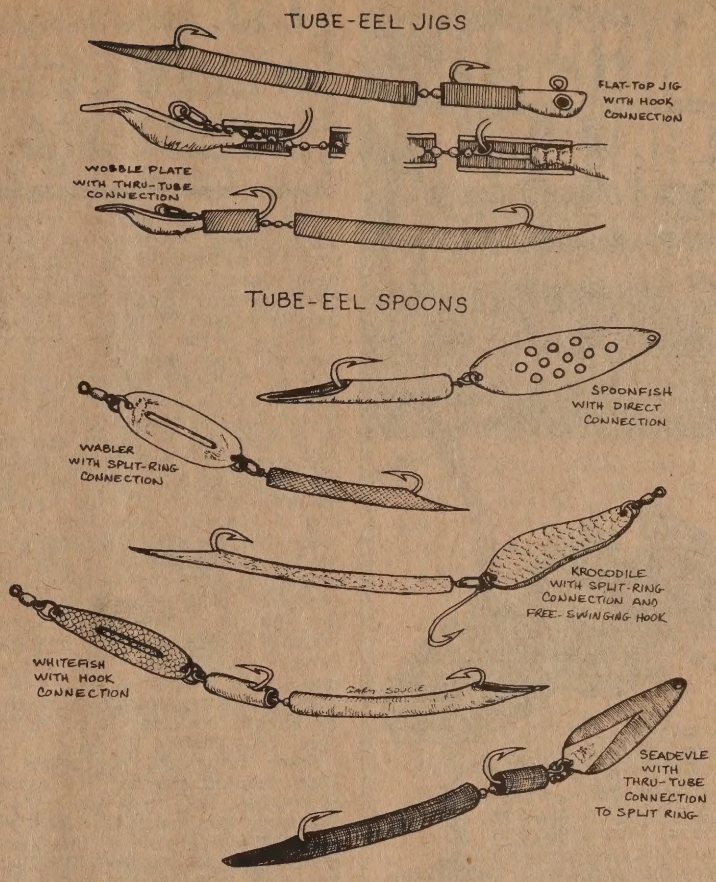
There is another method of assembly for either of these lures, but it will be discussed below.

Making the eel spoon is as simple as making the tube eel jigs, but a little more judgement will be needed on your part. The tubing that trails behind the spoon can be long or short, the maximum length determined by the action of the spoon you have selected. Don't worry too much about this, for even a mismatched spoon and tube will work. Once you have had a chance to try it out on the water, you might want to experiment with different lengths for fine tuning the lure. The easiest way to do this is to make up several bead-chain tube rigs in various lengths, and simply snap them one after another onto the spoon you want to use, and study the action until you find the combo you like best.

The simplest connections involve snapping the bead chain tube onto the spoon—either to the split ring or directly through the rear hole in the spoon. In either case, the tubing should be cut so that it extends all the way up the bead chain just to the snap. If you are using a fairly short bead chain, it's best to remove the spoon's hook, to avoid any possibility of the hook's fouling the bead chain or tubing.

However, if you are using a long tube, you might want to use a front hook. Some fish, particularly striped bass, have a tendency to hit lures from the side. There are three ways to accomplish this. The simplest is to snap the bead chain onto the split ring that holds the hook. Just be sure to attach the bead chain to the ring on the side that is away from the bend and barb of the single hook, to minimize fouling. If you want to use a treble hook on the spoon, snap the bead chain on the ring so that the snap rides between two of the hook's

BEAD-CHAIN TUBE LURES


TUBE-EEL JIGS
FLAT-TOP JIG WITH HOOK CONNECTION
WOBBLE PLATE WITH THRU-TUBE CONNECTION
TUBE-EEL SPOONS
SPOONFISH WITH DIRECT CONNECTION
WABLER WITH SPLIT-RING CONNECTION
KROCODILE WITH SPLIT-RING CONNECTION AND FREE-SWINGING HOOK
WHITEFISH WITH HOOK CONNECTION
SEADEVLE WITH THRU-TUBE CONNECTION TO SPLIT RING

bends, and opposite the third, when both hook and tubing are trailing out straight behind.

There are two other methods for attaching the bead chain tube to a hooked spoon. The first method is very similar to the method described above for the jigs and wobble plates. Slip a short length of tubing over the hook's shank, string the snap end of the bead chain through the short tube alongside the hook shank, and attach the snap to the split ring.

The last method of attaching the tubing can also be used with the jigs and wobble plates. This also involves using a short length of tubing slipped over the hook, but in this case, you want to pierce a small hole in the tubing so that the point, barb, and most of the bend will stick up through the tubing. Before you run the hook through the small hole, slip the bead chain over the hook, and you are all set. Clearance between the two sections of tubing will have to allow the rear tube to spin without fouling the front hook.

If you make the hole in the tubing small enough, this will be a secure connection. The tubing will keep the snap from slipping back up over the hook. However, an even more secure connection will result if you use a Bead Chain leader and remove the snap. That way, you can slip the smaller and stronger forged ring over the hook. You also could use the leader in reverse, with the ring on the hook and the rear hook attached to the snap. But when I am fishing for large, strong fish, I don't like to connect hooks directly to snaps. Maybe I'm paranoid, but I worry that a gnashing fish may be able to spring the snap open. It might happen only once in a blue moon, but I don't want to risk losing a once-in-a-blue-moon fish, either.

One more word about using these lures. Stainless steel is rust-free and has a high resistance to saltwater corrosion, but stainless steel is more susceptible to crevice corrosion than any other metal. Crevice corrosion occurs in crevices and tight places where insufficient oxygen can get at the steel to form the chromium oxide film that keeps stainless steel from corroding. Bead chains and other stainless steel swivels that haven't been nickel-plated internally (as Sampo's ball bearing swivels are) have plenty of tight places to let crevice corrosion begin. And it only takes a little corrosion to keep a swivel from swiveling. So, after each use, flush these lures thoroughly in running fresh water, and let them dry thoroughly before putting them back in your tackle box. This preventive maintenance also will keep your hooks, split rings, snaps, and spoons from corroding.

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MONTAUK

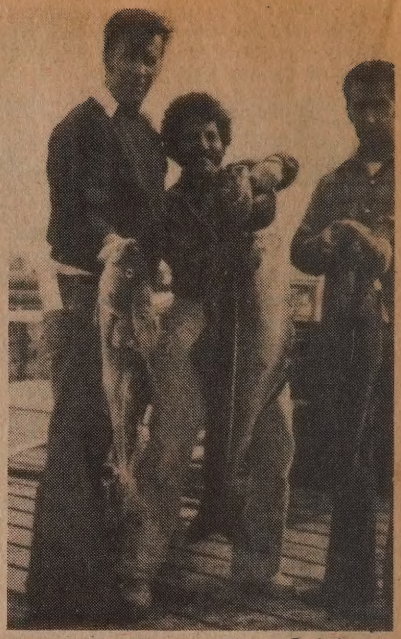
★ BEST BET ★

MIXED BAG

The fishing at Montauk is presently going through the transition stage from spring to summer fishing. The water has been warming up and summer species have been arriving daily. The first striped bass were taken off the Point last week by a couple of the charter boats trolling umbrella rigs. Schools of 8 lb. class bluefish provided action around Great Eastern and the Southeast Light off Block Island. Sea bass have begun to move into all of their regular haunts and the run should be on full force by this weekend. A few porgies were taken off Gin Beach by flounder fishermen. And there's a sprinkling of blackfish throughout the area. Meanwhile, the cod and pollack fishing off Block Island has been having its ups and downs due to the unrelenting fog conditions of last week, which made locating the fish difficult. Snowshoe flounder fishing has been very good to fantastic off Rocky Point, along Gin Beach, and Shagwong, with 4 lb. fish virtually in every catch. Fish under 2 lbs. are almost considered to be of "throwback" proportions.

Frank Tuma, Sr., of **Tuma's Tackle Shop** reported that the first catches of striped bass were made during the week. Honors for first catch by a charter boat went to Bill Mason of the "Sue-Jac", who trolled 9 bass ranging from 10 to 20 lbs. on Thursday. Capt. George McTurck of the charter boat **Sportfisher** took two, 30 lb. striped bass on Sunday, and also took over 20 bluefish trolling around Great Eastern. Cod and pollack fishing remain very good at Shark's Ledge off of Block Island, but the fog conditions have been making fishing difficult. A few of the open boats have been loading up on snowshoe flounder close to the jetties, and large sea bass are starting to show in all of their usual haunts.

Pictured is the "Viking Starship" returning from a recent cod trip to Block Island. Thirty hangers were taken, with more pollack than cod. Photo courtesy of the Viking Fishing Fleet.



Lou Carrillo & Tom Quigley with part of their catch of 30 cod, 50 whiting and plenty of mackerel taken south of Block Island, aboard the Black Onyx out of Cove Marina in Montauk.

Capt. Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** reported that on Sunday, he trolled in the fog off Block Island and took four giant pollack in the 30 lb. class and over 20 bluefish in the 8 lb. range. Warren said that the water has been warming rapidly and it won't be long before the offshore fishing should come alive.

Henry Colombe of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that some of the private boats in the marina have been doing a real good job on giant flounder fishing off Rocky Point. One of the marina's charter boats trolled two striped bass and six bluefish in Sunday's fog off the Point. Striped bass are also being taken in the surf around North Bar and Evan's Rock. The heavy fog conditions all week held down the catches of cod and pollack off Block Island, however.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** reported that the sea bass have begun moving into all their local haunts and he found a few big fish almost everywhere he tried. The fishing should be on in full force within another week or so. Meanwhile, the bags are being filled out with codfish, taken around Southwest Ledge and other local areas.

Capt. Phil Lewis of the charterboat **Adios** reported that on a trip to Block Island over the holiday weekend, he took 3 big pollack and 30 large bluefish trolling in the fog. Saturday's charter decided to get in on the excellent flounder fishing and bagged 30 of the big fish.

Capt. Gene Kelly called to say that the charter boat **Sea Doll** has just been brought back up from its winter quarters down south and is now available for charters—inshore, offshore, you name it.

Little Bear and **Flying Cloud** have been doing an excellent job with the cod, mainly working Southwest Ledge, fish 8 to 15 lbs., all on bait. Some of the days this past week were so good that counts ran around 20 per person. However, as you read this,

both of these open boats are switching over to sea bass and other goodies, the other goodies being any and all targets of opportunity under the boat and at Montauk, there are many.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** asked us to tell you that his next **Nantucket Wreck Trip** special will be sailing June 12 at 1 AM, returning 7 PM the same day. These are always big sell-out trips, so reservations are required and you must reserve early. Fare is $55, with a $25 deposit required and should be sent to the Viking Fleet, Box 497, Montauk, N.Y. 11954.

Charterboat **Tara** called to tell us that on Saturday afternoon, he took 3 stripers from 12-15 lbs. each on umbrellas at the Elbow. He also informed us that each of the 3 boats trolling umbrellas late Saturday afternoon had a dozen or so blues apiece.

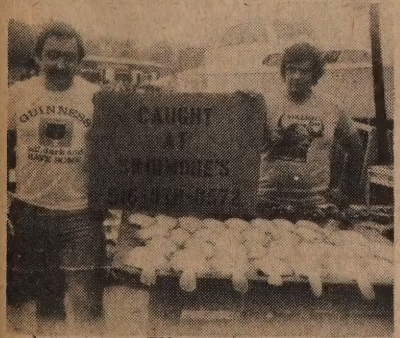
SOUTH FORK
★ BEST BET ★
FLUKE

HAMPTON BAYS

Tony's Fishing Station reported that good sized flounders are being taken by the bushel basket right in front of the Station and also off buoy 18 by anglers chumming with mussels and using any of the standard baits. A few blowfish are also being taken mixed in with the flounder. Capt. Al Zeuke, Charles Payne, and George Bergohm of New Jersey took 19 fluke up to 4 lbs., drifting in the East Channel on Monday. Tony said that the fluke were taking either a combination of sand eel and squid, or spearing and squid, but for some reason would not take a single bait. Bill Nix, owner of the boat "Drifter" took 30 bluefish to 6 lbs., trolling umbrella rigs in only 30 ft. of water southwest of the inlet.

MORICHES BAY

Bill at **East Moriches Bait and Tackle** tells us that Leigh Schroeder on Saturday had 20 bluefish at Moriches buoy up to 7 lbs. on spinning tackle and popping and swimming plugs. Flounders were good this week at buoy 39 on worms and clam. Blues are a good bet in the Bay trolling between the jetties. Bill himself had three 8 lb. bluefish on umbrellas on Monday. Fluke are starting to show and over the weekend, a skin diver speared a 6 lbr. at the rocks.



Desmond Connick and Richard Mirra with their catch of 40 flounder to 1-3/4 taken on bloodworms and mussel chum at buoy 44 and off the Coast Guard Station. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

Seatuck Cove Fishing Station said despite the fog fishing was fair to good this past week and weekend as evidenced by Walt Eckhoff and brother Dan of Wantagh, who took 51 flounder at buoy 39 on the flood with bloods and mussel chum. In general, the flounder fishing continues to be good, with an occasional fluke being taken on the flounder rigs.

Skidmore's Fishing Station called to say that on Saturday the Katzman family of Brooklyn boated 66 good flounder up to 2 lbs. 9 oz. at buoy 43 on bloods. On Sunday, Donald Dillemuth and party had 69 flounder at buoy 39. Fish are feeding best on the top of the incoming and this catch was also made on bloodworms. A decent catch of fluke was had by Dave Roys of Bellerose with 17 fish up to 3½ lbs., taken at the West Cut on sand eels.

GREAT SOUTH BAY
★ BEST BET ★
WEAKFISH

MASTIC BEACH

Gary at **Stirz's Fishing Station** happily tells of a massive blowfish invasion in the area from buoy 13 to buoy 9, hitting on all tides on all baits to the tune of 10 to 150 per boat. Ben Depasquale and buddies had over 175 over the weekend. Also good fluking from buoy 19 to 25 on live killies, sand eels and spearing on running water. Chester Werle and party had fluke and blues in the 3 to 4 lb. range on Monday from buoy 19 to 25. Good bluefishing at the hole at buoy 17, fish up to 6 lbs. this weekend. Flounders at Great Gun in South Channel. Jim Lange had over 100 on Monday fishing worms and mussel baits. Weaks at buoy 12, but only early in the morning due to the heavy boat traffic. These fish were on salty dogs tipped with squid. Capt. Fred on the charter boat **Seamist** reports very good bluefishin at the C buoy on umbrellas rigs in 60 to 80 ft. of water.

SAYVILLE

Vinnie at **Young's Fishing Station** tells us that Clay Hardman had 18 weakfish and 6 blues, weaks running 3 to 7 lbs., and the weakfish up to 8 lbs., working about a mile off Nichol's Point using salty dogs and small freshwater surge tubes. On Sunday, Bob Davidson and pals fished at Ocean Beach and caught from 3 PM to 6 PM, when boat traffic eased off, caught 19

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weakfish and 3 blues on salty dogs tipped with squid. Monday saw Ron Marchese, Bob Quaies and Mike Lake take 10 weaks to 8½ lbs., and seven blues to 7 lbs. fishing off Pointer Woods with small surge tubes and green salty dogs, casting and retrieving. A few blowfish have been caught between the State Channel and Hecksher on anything. A few blackfish are being caught at the artificial reef on fiddlers. Fluke and sea bass are sporadic on clam and squid.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports good fluking west of the bridge on the flood with sand eel-squid combos. Good action in tshe State channel also. Weaks in the State Channel with the hot area between buoys 12 and 13 at Fire Island for weaks on sand worms and purple and red jelly worms. 15 weaks to 11 lbs. 8 oz. were taken by Mike the rod builder of Smokey's, while fishing with buddy Pete Sendone. Two to four pound blues are being taken all over the bay on Hopkins, Rebels and small Atoms. A few blackfish and sea bass at the artificial reef on the appropriate fresh baits. Blues on umbrellas at the inlet. A 12 lb. bluefish was bagged by the surfcaster while fluking under the Moses Bridge on fluke belly. Over 70 weakfish were taken aboard the **Speedy VI** on Monday's day trip on sand worms and on jelly worms.

The Casey Lee reports weakfishing is improving steadily. Saturday and Sunday evenings between 20 and 30 weakfish per night are being taken, with blues mixed in, in the 2-3 lb. category. The weaks are running 7 to 11 lbs. Best action is in West Channel and buoy 12 off Atlantic. Pink salty dogs, screw tails, grape and strawberry jelly worms and twisters all seem to be bagging these fish. Fluking has been fair to good on the day trips, with 50 to 150 flatties per day on the weekend, all on killies and sand eels. Best results have been at West Channel and the Robert Moses Bridge. Most of these are keepers and the pool always goes to a 3 lb. fluke. Blues are mixed in to these fluke catches every day. Saturday saw nine blues in the 2-3 lb. range and one 8¾ lb. blue taken on fluke rigs. Capt. Neil says t to please remind you he is sailing 4 Pm daily for weakfish and should be continuing for another two weeks or so.

CAPTREE

The Jib Fleet reports the fluking is in full swing, though no slaughter, with the State Channel, the Captree Bridge area and the inlet producing nicely. On Friday, Caryn Miller of Bayside grabbed the pool with a 6 lb 10 oz. fluke, while Joe Kemper was high hook with 18 keeper fluke. This was all on sand eels and killies. Marty says it looks like a great fluke season ahead. Weakfish on their 3:30 PM trips are increasing even more and small blues are rampant and being taken on weakfish lures.

The charter boat **Lady Ann** called to tell us the fluking has been fair to good, with roughly 50 to 150 fluke per trip on killies and on sand eels. Best action has been at the Moses Bridge at either change of tide with lots of small 2-3 lb. blues mixed in.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen** reports that his morning fluke and flounder trips zero in on what is available in the most quantity according to the tide, what's been heaviest the previous day, etc. Flounder action has been very good most days, average 10 to 15 flatties per person and on days when fluke is the target of opportunity, they are getting 3 to

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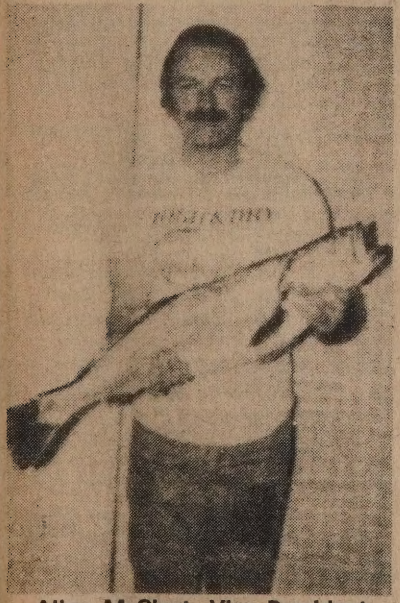
9 fluke per person. The fluke are larger in size than this time last year. He will be continuing to fluke and filling in with flounder action. It seems you can't go wrong this way. Best fluking is around the Moses Bridge, the State Channel and Snake Hill Channel, on sand eels, killies of fluke belly. Gordon says he has all bait on board for the fluke and flounder, so there's no need to buy any. The afternoon weakfish trips have been producing more and more fish as the season progresses, with plenty of action available. The boat is averaging 15 to 30 weakfish per night trip, and they are losing as many, as the result of break-offs, fish all in the 7-10 lb. range. Biggest of the week was a 10 lb. 10 oz. tiderunner, best areas being worked are Ocean Beach and West Island. The fish are not on the flats yet. They are being taken on a large variety of artificials of various colors and the best weakfishing is yet to come.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty** reported that the weakfishing was good during the week and on Saturday and Sunday on the afternoon trips. Catches ranged up to 5 weakfish per man, and the largest during the week was a real tiderunner of 12 lbs. 4 oz. George said that some of the fishermen broke off larger fish that just started running and wouldn't stop. Best action has been drifting an unweighted sand worm or casting artificials off Ocean Beach and in West Channel. The fluke fishing has been fair during the day in the State Channel and the Robert Moses Bridge, and quite a few fluke are being taken on artificials meant for weakfish. A lot of the fluke being taken are decent sized, many in the 2-3 lb. class. The best action has been around the changes of both moving tides, but the action is not too good when the current is running full force. Killies and sand eels have been the best bait.

BABYLON

Babylon Fishing Station reports lot and lots of fish are being caught every day by his skiffs and a lot are being weighed in and that fishing is very good now. Good catches of weaks and blues are being made in the State Channel through the Babylon Cut, Snake Hill Channel and Steamboat channel. Harold Aberle of Deer Park, along with pal Gene had 12 weaks from 7 to 9 lbs. 8 oz., at Steamboat Channel on white Mr. Twisters with squid strip. Sand worms are working very well also for weaks, as are salty dogs and the Twister lures. A lot of fluke are being taken in the area of the Sore Thumb in the 18-20 inch category. Weaks, fluke and blues at the Sore Thumb. Bay blues and fluke at Snake Hill. Fluke and weakfish are also there to be had, killies working best on the fluke. Virtually no one is coming back without a good catch of fish.

Augie's Bait and Tackle tells of bay blues all over the place with catches of 50 and 60 fish not uncommon by chumming, trolling, drifting with bait and also casting mackerel painted Rebels. The fluke action has been pretty good but the many bluefish are overwhelming the fluke baits. One customer brought in 27 fluke he took while anchored at the Moses Bridge while casting and retrieving salty dogs tipped with squid. Tony Alessi and Rich Plofker of Deer Park had 28 fluke and 2 blues using sand eels and squid, casting and retrieving. Larry Gentile and Joe Namath had 40 blues on umbrella rigs in Fire Island Inlet and Joe came back the next day to bag 26 on his own on small umbrellas. On May 23, Mike Kay and Leo Sotpile and Ed McKay of North Babylon bagged up with 56 whiting, 8 ling, 5 blues and 5 mackerel, fishing 20 miles offshore. Flounder still at the Sore Thumb, 25 to 30 a man on worms and clam. Jim Cassidy, Bill Doyle and Frank Xavier, all of Brooklyn, took 30 weaks and 2 blues Saturday night on sand worms at Ocean Beach.



Allen McCloat, Vice President of the High & Dry Fishing Club with a 10 lb. 6 oz. weakfish taken aboard the Tiderunner at buoy 12, Ocean Beach. Subscriber Club photo.

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LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait and Tackle reports that Joey G., Tony and his shoemaker had nearly 500 lbs. of bluefish at Farm Shoals between Saturday and Sunday along with six fluke and a 12 lb. striper, all in 5 ft. of water. This is halfway between the lighthouse and Ocean Beach. Another big catch in the same area was made by Nick Russo, 48 blues on Saturday, 3 to 5 pounders. This was on salty dogs and sinking Rebels, all colors. Fluke and a few weakfish at west Fire Island and the F.I. Inlet off the Coast Guard Station and in the State Channel. Blue claw crabs started being taken on Monday at the Wellwood Ave. Dock in scoop nets. Flounders at the Sore Thumb on worms and clam and small bluefish all over the bay. John Herman on Monday bagged a 9 lb. blue on six pound test line with a dog and squid. Joey G. took a 12 lb. blue fishing 200 yards east of the Bay Bridge on a pink salty dog on the weekend. No shark reports yet.

The Capt. Bob Fisher called to tell us that he has started the season's chartering at the beginning of May and wound up the flounder season with a successful charter of the L. I. Trust Co., Garden City. The boat is now fishing fluke and Bob says he has a good selection of choice dates open. The boat has been fine tuned and is ready for an active and productive season and will be sailing morning and afternoon charters and moonlight sails. See ad for details.

COPIAGUE

Jonas' Bait and Tackle says that there are all kinds of fish to be had now in good numbers and that the bay is really alive. Ron Scorza of Copiague fished the Sore Thumb on Friday for 15 blues from 2-3 lbs., 6 weaks up to 10 lbs., and two fluke all on pink shrimp lures. He snagged a couple of bunker as well and live-lined these unfortunate fellows to the tune of 1 weakfish and 1 big bass that he never even got a look at. Lots of bluefish from Copiague to Dickerson's Channel to Fire Island Inlet and big weakfish also at Dickerson's. A 9 lb. blackfish was taken on fiddler crabs off the Kismet Reef this past week. One customer drifted up 32 fluke from 2-4 lbs., working from the drawbridge past Frank & Dick's on killie and squid combos, with spearing and sand eels baits working also. Plenty of fish were caught this week and weaks up to 10 lbs. were weighed in.

Larry at **Bait and Tackle Unlimited** tells us the flounder fishing remains okay, but numbers are decreasing with the State Channel and the flats behind Good Sam producing best. Weaks strong in the State Channel and at Heckscher on salty dogs, worms and squid. Weakfish also off the Tanner Park Beach in Copiague, with Larry weighing in a 7¾ on Sunday. Blues in the inlet and in the State Channel on tins, tails and dogs. Fluking fair in the inlet and the east end of State Channel on squid sand eels and killies. Larry says he has 5 sizes and types of squid. A few blackfish on the Kismet Reef on fiddlers and sections of green crab.

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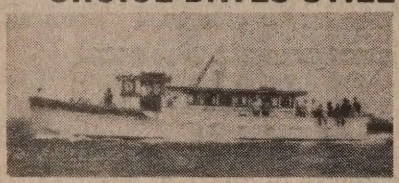

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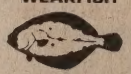
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AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait & Tackle tells us that weakfish is the name of the game right now on purple and red jelly worms and 8 inch recoil worms (white) along with the standby sand worms with Heckscher's buoy 3 and 4 and Ocean Beach, weaks being mixed with blues up to 3 lbs., along with an occasional black or sea bass. Weaks and small blues are being trolled at the lighthouse on small Sekora umbrellas in white and purple. The Sore Thumb is producing fish by the same method also. Blackfish at the Meadowbrook and Wantagh Bridges and at the Kismet Reef on clam and fiddlers. Good fluking in the State Channel to the Amityville Cut and at Squaw and West Islands on squid and sand eels. Some blowfish are being taken on anything you offer them. The fishing is just plain good.

SEAFORD

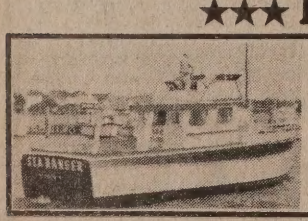
Ed at **Shore Isle Marina** has a hot piece of news, that of Jerry Foote's 40 lb. striped bass taken Monday night at the second Wantagh on the last of the flood on clam belly. An 8 lb. 2 oz. blue grabbed a green banana at the third Wantagh, offered by Bob Horbath on Sunday at 7 AM. 12-year-old Mike Scanlon and dad bagged 4 fluke and a harbor blue fishing Ocean Beach, the most fertile area being fished by their rental boats is at the first Wantagh bridge area.

Bob at **Naomi Inn Fishing Station** tells us that Mickey and crew on the Dynamite had two pails full of flounder plus blowfish fishing near the Coast Guard Station on the weekend. Harry Smith of Seaford drifted up a fair catch of fluke at Short Beach also on killie-squid combos. All of **Naomi's** skiffs are returning with fish. Bob asked us to remind you that his skiffs including motor have a rental of only $20, tax included.

BELLMORE

Merrick Marine Supplies tells of bluefish being caught in 50 ft. of water on

★★★ BABYLON ★★★



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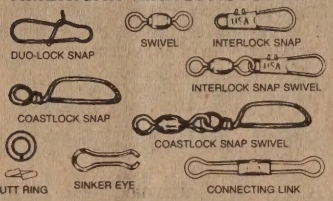

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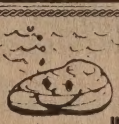

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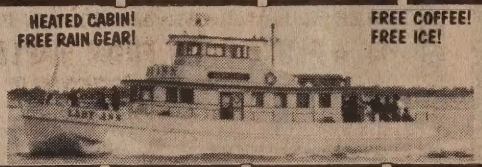

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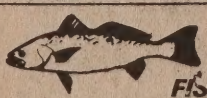

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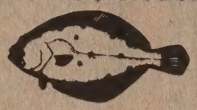

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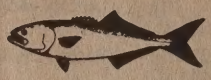

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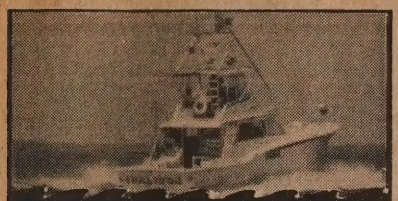

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Fluke • Macks • Bass • Blues • Tuna
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Sailing from Otto's Sea Grill, Woodcleft Canal

Modern, Fully Equipped Sportfisherman

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- Split Charters Available
- All Bait and Tackle Included!

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SHARK $240
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BOOK NOW FOR '78 • 15 MAN MINIMUM
★ COMING SOON ★
The all new 50' "KING WAYNE" Sportfisherman
Twin Diesel Power • All Elect. • 48 Pass. Capacity
CHARTER ONLY! CAPT. WAYNE KING Freeport Boatmen's Assoc.
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★ 40 FT. CHARTER BOAT ★
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★ *ALL ELECTRONICS* ★
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FLOUNDER • MACKEREL
★ 6 to 18 Passengers ★
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Fast, Twin Engine 34' Sportfisherman
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Fast 29' Custom Fishing Machine
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All Custom Tackle Furnished—6-lb. to 130-lb.
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(End of Railroad Place, Island Park)

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FLUKE 7 AM DAILY

Fast, Comfortable 65 Ft. Open Boat 431-2230
Ft. of Long Beach Bridge, Island Park, L.I.
★ SPECIAL WEEKDAY FARE $11 ★

NOCTURNAL WEAKFISHING

(Continued from page 25.)

feel the light pick-up, the rod tip should be dropped slightly, giving the fish a little slack line allowing it to inhale the entire bait. Weaks have a tendency to run up on a worm, mouth it, spit it out, then grab it once again, all within a few seconds. Dropping of the rod tip permits the fish to think the worm has been injured and is now trying to escape.

Setting of the hook is a steady upward pull and not the "ol' jerk hard" method. This uniform upwards lift of the rod tip sinks the point of the hook easily into the fish's mouth. Just the name alone indicates there is something weak about this species of fish and it is in the mouth. A quick jerk will tear the hook out of its mouth. Lifting the rod tip is enough strain to penetrate the soft flesh.

Supple rods are best suited for this fishing, not only because of their limpness, but they must have a telltale report to pick up a very light hit. A favorite rod I have found for this type of fishing is the Shakespeare SS220 in a six-foot length. The rod is light in weight, but beefy enough to hold a tiderunner size fish, with the thinnest of tips for sensitivity.

During this period of nocturnal weakfishing time, there are striped bass also cruising the very same territory of the bridge shadows. Every once in awhile, that worm will be engulfed by one of these striped power plants and the relaxation of the night is broken. One never knows when this will happen, but it is the nocturnal period when big fish feed best.

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MODERN • FAST • TWIN SCREW
Inshore/Offshore • All Custom Tackle Provided
SHARKS Our Specialty!!!
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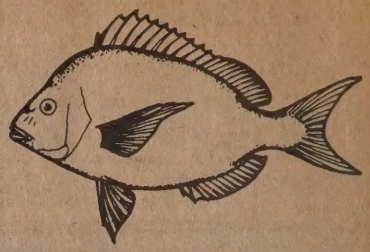
umbrellas, many fish going 14-18 lbs. Fair to good fluking in Reynold's Channel, Jones Inlet on squid and sand eel combos. Swift Creek has also been producing. Strong rumors of some blue shark starting offshore. Plenty of weakfish at Ocean Beach's buoy 13 and also locally at the Meadowbrook bridge on squid and sand worms on bottom rigs. Flounders in the deeper holes behind Merrick on worm, clam and mussel.

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** reports great flounder fishing this past week and weekend in Broad Creek on worms on any moving water, fishing going up to 2 lbs. One angler had 6 fish that went 1½ to 2 lbs., aside from the rest of his catch. The flood is best. Some fluke in Sloop Channel on sand eels and squid. 16 blackfish up to 4 lbs. were taken by one customer on Monday using fiddlers at the Meadowbrook Bridge. A lot of small blues being taken in Sloop Channel, swift Creek and the inlet while drifting fluke.

BALDWIN

Arthur St. Fishing Station reports flounders up to 4 lbs. caught in Scow Creek by Maria Buscaino and Dad, Frank on Saturday. There were 25 flounders in all running from 1-4 lbs., along with a few eels and crabs. This was all on the ebb on worms and red dyed clam. Blues up to 10 lbs. for at least one boat working the 45-ft. mark south of Jones Inlet on umbrellas and wire.



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65'X 20' • Fast Twin Diesels • 600 H.P.
—NOW BOOKING 1978 SEASON—
All Types of Fishing, Both Days or Nights!
★ Charter Accom. Up To 75 Pass. ★
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★ 7 AM DAILY ★

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COMPLETE ELECTRONICS
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UP TO 6 PASS.
Cod, Flounder, Macks, Weaks, Bass, Blues, Tuna, Fluke, Shark
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"BABE"

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Nite Charters Avail. —Bait & Tackle On Board—
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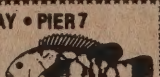
PILOT II



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BAIT • TACKLE • RESTAURANT
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DAILY 8:30 AM ● (212) 885-0843
First Traffic Light at Jack's Bait & Tackle

WEST END SOUTH SHORE

★ BEST BET ★ FLUKE

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** reports that Saturday and Sunday fishermen saw nice ling and sea bass fishing. Catches averaged 25 fish per person and the captain has been moving around to many areas such as the Fire Island reef, Cholera, Jones Inlet, Anglers Bank and the Far Rockaway reef to find the best fishing. Fishermen found the fishing a little tougher on Monday, but some nice fish were taken.

The **Aloma II** tells us of some fantastic fluke fishing at Sloop Creek, Swift Creek and Jones Inlet. Fish from 14 inches to 5 pound pool fish are being taken with lots of fish running in the 3 to 4 lb. range. Mixed in with the fluke have been 1½ to 2 lb. bluefish and a couple of weakfish. On Monday, Bruce Moses of Wantagh took the pool with a 5 lb. fluke.

The **Blue Fin II** reports a very productive week. Last Monday, Reynold's Channel produced excellent flounder results for Tom Price, who was high hook and pool winner for the Sky Chefs. On Thursday, another branch of the above group had good sea bass and ling fishing at an offshore wreck and on Friday, ling and whiting made the day's catch. On Saturday, over 100 fluke were boated in Reynold's Channel, Jones Inlet and the State Channel. On Sunday and Monday, the boat saw fluke up to 3½ lbs., and bluefish were grabbing up the fluke baits. On Sunday, Capt. Charlie Adams took the **Blue Fin** into Reynold's Channel and had nice catches of fluke, along with a dozen bluefish.

Capt. Hall reports good fluke fishing all week. The boat fished Jones Inlet for the flatties, and bluefish were mixed in with the catches. The fluke have been running from 14 inches up to 3 lb. pool fish.

Ronnie Feuring at **Sea Isle Sports** tells of good catches of flukes and blues in Sloop Channel, Jones Inlet and some of the main channels running north, the blues hitting all the normal fluke baits. A big catch of flounder was taken by Nate of Sea Isle in Swift Creek, while Scow Creek and the Coast Guard Station area are also producing good flounder catches. A dozen plus bluefish per boat are being trolled up on wire and tubes at the Bell Buoy. Capt. Joe Long on the charter boat **Night Owl** informs us that while he has repowered with a new engine, he has been pounding fluke from his small 22 footer and has been mainly working the area south of the loop bridge and also Sloop Channel, bucktailing with a small piece of strip bait, with excellent results. His big **Night Owl** now out of the boat yard is ready to take on the mysteries and inhabitants of the sea once again.

Charter boat **Sea Hawk** called to tell us that he explored Cinder Creek in a small skiff on Monday taking a good catch of flounder along with a 17 inch fluke, all on clam and mussel chum. On Sunday's charter, Art Goldstein and Gary Bergmann had a dozen flounder in the morning and a solid afternoon of fluking. The flounders were on the flood at Swift Creek on fresh and dyed clam, while fluke were taken at the Inlet and Long Creek on sand eels and squid. Monday's charter of Tony Plaza and party bagged fluke and flounder around the Meadowbrook Bridge area and also the inlet. They had 45 flounder to 2 lbs. on regular and red dyed clams. The fluke were on sand eels and squid up to 4 lbs. Fifty percent of the fluke taken were keepers.

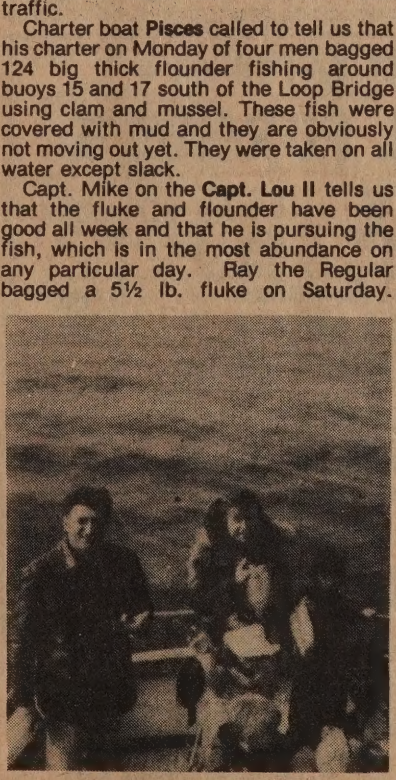
Capt. Mike Miller of the charter boat **APUS** tells us that his Thursday charter for the Kahoud family saw over 70 flounders caught up to 2½ lbs., working Swift Creek, Sunday's charter of the Kaplan family bagged 14 fluke, 6 flounder and 1 blue fishing Jones Inlet.

The Freeport Boatmen's Association saw most of its boats fluking over the weekend, with substantial catches of these good size, delicious eating creatures. Most of the catches were made south of the Loop bridge on sand eels, squid and killies. On Saturday, **Bigfoot** had a mess of blues from 3 to 5 lbs., trolling outside Jones Inlet. The boats fishing the bottom in the ocean had good whiting catches at the Subway rocks. **Night Owl II** had a big catch of tilefish on its recent trip and another one is planned shortly as is an offshore cod trip to some of Capt. Jim's favorite wrecks. Watch his ad for details.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports that his skiffs are bringing back nice fluke catches from Swift Creek and from the Coast Guard Station area and that a lot of blues to 3 pounds are smashing fluke rigs. Five to six keeper fluke a boat and 2 or 3 blues a boat is about what's coming in. Good flounder catches also at the Coast Guard Station, Fundy and Swift Creek. Blacks at the Meadowbrook bridge on fiddlers were a good number during the week when there wasn't so much boat traffic.

Charter boat **Pisces** called to tell us that his charter on Monday of four men bagged 124 big thick flounder fishing around buoys 15 and 17 south of the Loop Bridge using clam and mussel. These fish were covered with mud and they are obviously not moving out yet. They were taken on all water except slack.

Capt. Mike on the **Capt. Lou II** tells us that the fluke and flounder have been good all week and that he is pursuing the fish, which is in the most abundance on any particular day. Ray the Regular bagged a 5½ lb. fluke on Saturday.



Dr. Pearson, Gene Graves and children with part of their catch of flounder from 3/4 to 1-3/4 lbs., taken on May 7 aboard the "APUS."

Sunday saw good fluking with a few blues mixed in fishing the CG Station and Jones Inlet. Mike says it's a good season.

Capt. Jimmy Lanzaratti of the charter boat **Nite Owl II** reports that he had excellent weather and excellent tile fishing for his recent tile trip out to Hudson Canyon, that there were 2 or 3 fish on all the time. One angler by the name of Stan was high hook with 18 tile, while John DeMino had 15 tile. The catch for 25 anglers at Hudson Canyon was 271 tile, a little over 2,000 lbs. Jimmy will be scheduling another tile trip soon and also a wreck trip, so watch here for upcoming dates.

The Capt. Al reports that he has been having very good ling and fair sea bass catches along with some blues and a pollack or two for a real action-packed mixed bag of fishing. Mainly it is ling and sea bass, with many weekend anglers getting 20 to 50 fish each, more on weekdays. His charter boat, the **Capt. II** will be starting half-day fluke trips on June 15, sailing weekdays only. The boat will be sailing open from 8 AM to 12 noon and from 1 PM to 5 PM.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports that a lot of small blues from 2 to 4½ lbs. are being taken on umbrella rigs and tubes in the Jones Inlet area. Fluke fishing has been good on the west side of the Loop Parkway Bridge and in the creeks on killie and sand eels. The fish have been good in numbers and in size, but have been very thin. Blackfish up to 7 lbs. are being taken on fiddler crabs at the Meadow Brook bridge and flounder can still be had in Swift Creek, in the Flats and in Fundy Bay.

ISLAND PARK

The **Commodore** reports good fluke fishing over the weekend. On Saturday, Bob Rupp of Brooklyn had 19 keepers out of 25 fluke and Tom Olivo of Valley Stream had 14 fish and the pool of 4½ lbs. The boat totaled over 200 keepers for the day. On Sunday, Al Menderis of Rego Park took 22 keeper fluke and the boat totaled 190 keepers. The fishing is being done in Debb's Inlet and in Reynold's Channel, where the change in tide produced more action. A few stray bluefish are being taken and the buoy 5 area near the Atlantic Beach Bridge is producing flounder up to 2 lbs.

Beckmann's Bait and Tackle reports the first big bass of the season taken by Frank Trupia while fishing with Vinnie Colabro. The bass weighed 29½ lbs. and was taken on a Gibbs Popper early in the morning at Ft. Tilden. Lots of short fluke can be taken in the area of Jones Inlet, Duck Point and Reynold's Channel. Big bluefish from 8-9 lbs., are being taken in the area from Jones Beach to Breezy Point on wire line, trolling deep. Weakfishing has been good at night and in the early mornings on Bingle Dandy Tails. These fish have been running from 6 to 12 lbs. Flounder up to 2 lbs. can still be taken in the deep waters of the bay and blackfish are starting to be taken at the bridges.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Capt. Ronnie Lepper of the charter boat **Kim** reports that through Sunday, he knows of only two striped bass caught between Monmouth Beach and Fire Island. Lots of blues, however, to 12 lbs. are around and he's working the Seabright area, decking 25 to 50 blues per trip from 3 to 12 lbs., on Lupo umbrellas and Baby

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—From the *BRONX RIVER* at *WESTCHESTER AVE.*—
Featuring the ALL NEW, ULTRA-MODERN, SPEEDY
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Bunker Spoons. Ronnie fishes 3 umbrellas and 2 spoons. He says that in 30 years of bass fishing he has never seen the guys with stripes so late in arriving. Gillnetters as far south as Shark River have been getting only a very few bass in their nets. The bait is there and the temperature is good, but where are the fish?

Henning's Fishing Station reports great flounder, fluke and blackfishing in the Reynold's Channel area. The flounders are taking worms, fluke are taking sand eels, squid and spearing and can also be found in East Rockaway Inlet and the blackfish are taking fiddler crab bait. Bluefish from 2 to 11 lbs. plus are being trolled along Atlantic Beach in 30 ft. of water and while trolling, one boat took a 5 lb. bass.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports that 15-year-old Mike Lambrara took a 3½ lb. blackfish fishing the North Channel bridge with fiddler crabs. Wayne Lee of Flushing, fished the North Channel bridge with mossbunker and took a 15 lb. 5 oz. and 3 lb. bluefish. Matty DeFalco, Carl Sciabarra and Mario Saldana took 11 bluefish up to 14 lbs., fishing buoy 21 at the VZ Bridge, with Lupo Baby Bunker Spoons and Umbrella rigs. The North Channel Bridge is still producing flounder in good quantity on worms and blackfish can be found at the North and South Channel bridges and the Marine Parkway Bridge over 5 lbs., on fiddlers and clams.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The **Dorothy B** reports fair to good ling and sea bass fishing over the weekend despite foggy conditions. Catches averaged 15 fish per person over the weekend fishing at Scotland, off Rockaway, and off Ambrose.

The New Zephyr reports very good sea bass and blackfishing over the weekend. On Monday, nice sized blackfish up to 7 lbs., were taken along with 1¾ lb. sea bass. On Saturday, blackfish were mostly taken and on Sunday, the catch was mostly sea bass. The boat has been fishing off the Jersey Shore, Shrewsbury and Rockaway and catches have averaged from 30 to 40 fish per person.

The **Blue Sea III** reports that a mixed bag of sea bass, blackfish, ling and whiting are being taken off the Highlands, Sea Bright and off the Scotlands. The fishing ran from good to excellent during the week, and fair on the weekend.

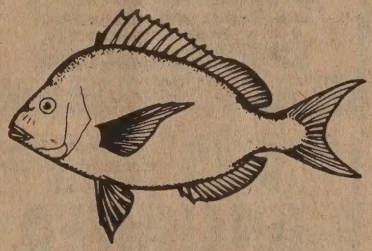
Capt. Tom of the **Pilot II** reports good blackfishing along with a few sea bass being taken off the Jersey coast. Catches are averaging 15 to 30 fish per person and over the weekend, 11-year-old Lance Ruden of Brooklyn took 35 blackfish to 5 lbs., and also took the $102 pool.

Stella Maris Bait and Tackle reports good bluefishing at Norton's Point on trolled umbrellas. Fluke starting to be caught off Reis Park on sand eels and squid. Good blackfishing at any rock pile or on wrecks on fiddlers and green crabs. Whiting and ling in Ambrose Channel on squid and still flounder to be had all around Jamaica Bay on worms.

Big Mohawk II called to report very good ling and whiting fishing plus a few bluefish over the weekend fishing the Scotland area. The Fulton Lounge Fishing Club was out on Sunday. Hall Bunning took the pool with a 4 lb. ling. Blues are in this area now and many ling are coming up with tails bitten off, holes in their backs, etc. A lot of blues at Seabright, according to one trawler captain. The boat will be sailing as an open boat this weekend, 7 AM sailing time.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports that bluefish are all over the surf in Raritan Bay and from the VZ Bridge to Tottenville. The bluefish have been schooling up in 3 different size classes. The beach fishermen have been taking 1-2 lb. fish and 8-10 lb. fish, while the boat fishermen have been taking 12-15 lb. bluefish. The hotspot has been the beach in Great Kills Park, where bluefish from 1-10 lbs. have been taking mostly cut bait. About 5 percent of the fish being taken here are taking Rebels, Kastmasters and Hopkins. The only striped bass activity in the area has been at Penny Beach and Cliff Street mostly on sand worms. There are a lot of shorts, but 3-4 lb. fish are becoming more abundant. Blackfish from 1½ to 2 lbs., and up to 5 lbs. are being taken at the Rock Jetty in Great Kills Park, the old home dock and at Piers 17 and 18. These fish have been taking fiddler crabs. Bluefish being taken from the boat are taking bunker and bunker chunks, Bingle Lancers and Gorilla Rigs and are ranging anywhere from 1-15 lbs. Some small striped bass are being taken on drifted sand worms near the VZ bridge.



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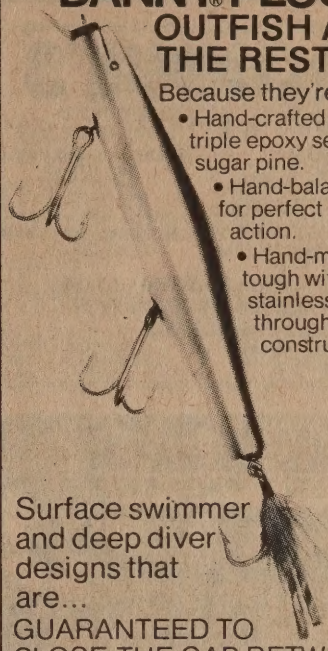

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Bob Kerber and Ron Petramala with 16 weakfish up to 11 lbs. 4 oz. taken at Rock Point on Salty Dogs. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt Fishing Station.

GREENPORT

The Brand X reports excellent night weakfishing Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, 25 percent bluefish and 75 percent tiderunner weaks. Frantic activity kept 3 mates and Capt. Porter busy with nets and gaffs a good part of the night. These trips sail from 7 PM to shortly after midnight. Weaks ran 5 to 12½ lbs., and blues were 3-11 lbs. This was all on squid bait on hi-lo rigs and it was a steady bail job. Fishing was also good weekdays, though the weekend day trips were tougher due to all the private boat traffic. Best action was in Little Peconic, Jessup's, Middle Grounds. Porgies are coming to life, as late Monday passengers caught them good on the last few hours of the fishing day.

The **Wilhelric II** reports that the night fishing has been excellent. On Saturday, over 100 fish were taken. Fourteen lb. bluefish were mixed in with the weakfish. The daytime fishing during the week was good, but the boat traffic slowed the fishing over the weekend.

A. P. White Bait Shop reports weakfish action good at West Neck and buoys 17 and 18. Fish averaging 6-7 lbs. and up to 13 are being taken on squid, worms and Salty Dogs. The boat traffic during the day slows the fishing quite a bit. Flounder fishing is still good in Gardiner's Bay. The blackfishing has been good from Greenport to Orient Point in the Sound where fish up to 8 lbs. are taking fiddlers and worms. Porgy fishing is picking up in the area and fish from 2-3 lbs. are being taken.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt reported some good weakfish action at buoy 16 and between buoys 17 and 18 and off the Windmill at Greenlawns. Biggest fish of the week was a 13 lb. 5½ oz. fish caught on a hi-lo rig by Lester Welles. Fluke are in the area. Dennis Jenkins picked up a 15 lb. 2 oz. jumbo while fishing for weaks. Good numbers of porgies between buoy 16 and 17. Some weighed 3½ lbs. Flounder fishing is good off Long Beach at Orient Point State Park and out into the Sound near Petty's Bight. Mackerel are gone, but blues from 4 to 6 lbs. are showing near buoy 17.

Speck's Bait and Tackle reports steady action on the weakfish off the beach at Cow Neck on jelly worms, particularly the grape with the red tail. Flounder has been picking up at the Nationals and Cold Spring, also off Gardiner's. The bigger fish are being caught on big sand worms. Porgies are still okay on clam at buoy 25, Middle Grounds. Mixed big blues and weaks off Peconic's Cow Neck.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports that weakfish averaging 6-8 lbs. are being taken in the South Race area and white seems to be the hottest color at the time. Fishermen are using Mr. Twisters, bucktails and Bingle lures. The porgy fishing was fantastic on Monday in the Rose's Grove area on the incoming tide. Fish up to 4 lbs. were taken on skimmers and worms. Blackfish are becoming more plentiful in the rocky areas close to shore in the South Race. These fish are averaging 4½ lbs., and are being taken mostly with skimmers. Fluke fishing is picking up off Nassau Point with fish up to 5 lbs. being taken on squid.

JAMESPORT

Warren's Tackle Center reported a 14 lb. weakfish is in the lead for the rod and reel given away for the largest weak. Porgies are nice and big in the bay. Bluefish were taken in the Sound at scattered locations over the weekend. An occasional bass is taking worms fished along the bottom. No reports on any mackerel.

SHINNECOCK

The Capt. Clark Fleet reports that weakfishing slowed down over the week-

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end due to heavy boat traffic, but the porgies picked up with nice catches of jumbos in the 2 to 3 lb. class. On Monday, Frank Bonanno of Manorville took the pool with a 12 lb. 7 oz. weakfish taken on salty dog tipped with squid.

NOYAC

Noyac Marina reports that on Saturday, the annual fishing trip for members of the Wantagh Fire Department Rescue II went out on Freddie's Getaway and had 40 weakfish and a couple of blues on squid. Also on Saturday, Ted Zariczny of New Jersey weighed in a fluke of 11 lbs. 3/4 oz. caught between buoy 16 and 17.

SAG HARBOR

Bayview Fishing Station reports there are still good flounder catches to be had around Cedar Point. Bruce Hufnagel and Frank Mohan had over 100 flounder there on Monday between 1 and 1½ lbs. Weakfish were a bit scarce this weekend, but on the week days there were five to ten per skiff, not uncommon with fish weighing from 6 to 12 lbs. Bill McClain took a 13½ pounder on Friday near Cedar Point on bucktail and pork rind. Some bluefish are being taken at the west end of the ferry along with weakfish.

NORTH SHORE
MID-ISLAND
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BLACKFISH

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports blackfish to 6 lbs. being taken off Tide's Beach on worms. Bass up to 22 lbs. are taking floated sand worms at Cedar Beach. Small porgies, skates and dogfish are congregating right off of the Rocky Point beaches. Buoy 11 is producing bluefish from 5-6 lbs. on umbrellas and jigs. Boaters have been averaging 30-40 choppers per day. Weakfish are taking Hopkins, spoons and small jigs off of Buoy 11. These fish are running up to 7-8 lbs.

MT. SINAI HBR.

Ralph's Fishing Station reports that mackerel up to 2 lbs. can still be found straight off the Harbor at buoy 11. Blackfishing has been good at Miller place, off the water tower and off Cedar Beach with fish up to 10¼ lbs., taking skimmers, worms and fiddlers. Porgies have been mixed in with the blackfish along with the first sea bass of the season. The porgies have been running up to 2 lbs.

Cousins John Finneran and Matthew Gilbert proudly display their blackfish catch taken off Callahan's Beach on skimmer clams. Photo courtesy of Mae's Way Fishing Station.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station reported plenty of macks at 11B over the weekend. Everyone got all they wanted. Flounders and blacks mixed together at Old Field Point. Blackfish over toward Miller Place. Only a few small schoolie bass taken so far. The weaks and blues were chasing sand eels up on top at 11B all day last Tuesday.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **Mae's Way Fishing Station** reports that fishing was excellent over the Memorial Day weekend. Flounder fishing is holding up well, mackerel are still in, and several excellent blackfish catches up to 8 lbs. were brought in. On Saturday, Norman Schwartz of Kings Park brought in the first porgy of the season, along with 20 flounder and several good sized blackfish. On Sunday, Tom Cutler and John Koliner had a mixed catch of blackfish to 7 lbs., flounder to 2 lbs., and a few porgies and mackerel, fishing the Mansion area with sand worms and skimmer clams. On Sunday, Robert O'connell topped off a nice mess of blackfish with a 7 lb. 13 oz. beauty caught from a rental boat on skimmer clam in the Brickyard area.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods reported the bluefish showed up at the Lilco hot water last Thursday. Fish weighed 4 to 7 lbs. Friday evening, they came in again with surf casters doing better than the boat guys. Anything white or shiny took fish. Bob Mele took 50 bass at the power plant up to 10 lbs. during the last week. Mackerel are still around as of this report. One customer took three fluke up to 4 lbs. drifting squid off Eaton's Neck. Flatfishing is best out in the Sound, with Callahan's Beach the best bet.

HUNTINGTON

Four Winds Tackle reported the weakfish showed up last week. Last Saturday

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FLUKE—FLOUNDER—BLACKFISH RIGS. Custom rods, Components. Huge selection of lures & reels popular in our area at lowest possible prices. Send $1 (Refunded with first order) to ANGLER'S EDGE, 109 Summit Street, Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771.

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OBTAIN YOUR U.S. COAST GUARD LICENSE TO CARRY PASSENGERS FOR HIRE. Personalized instructions. Continuous classes. For information, call Capt. Frank Bryant of the Moby-D Charterboat. Lindenhurst. 516-893-1498. 516-226-5664.

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BOATS TRANSPORTED—G. MAYER & SONS, since 1965. Local and Long Distance launching and hauling at various locations. Insured carriers. Cradles transported. "Tender loving care by George." 5% off with this Ad. 516-588-1500.

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FREE CATALOG of interest to fishermen—rigs, gifts. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY. 11566.

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FOR CHARTER AT MONTAUK
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Consistently Bought
Say you saw it in the FISHERMAN

Larry and Lester Eckert and John Kranenberg picked up nine fish from 4 to 9 lbs., off Diamond Point. Surf casters in that area also got in on the fishing. Good bass fishing off Marshall Fields on Rebels, Tri-Fin Eel Worms and sand worms. Richard DeNicola picked up a 5 pounder on a Tri-Fin Sand Eel jig. Not many flounder reports over the weekend, though there was good mackerel action from 32A west past 11B. Blackfish off Eaton's Neck, though the bigger fish are out toward 11B.

Morning Time Marina reports blackfish are being taken at Target Rock up to 8 lbs. on sand worms. The flounder activity in Lloyd Harbor is holding on with fish from 3/4 to 1¼ lbs., taking sand worms.

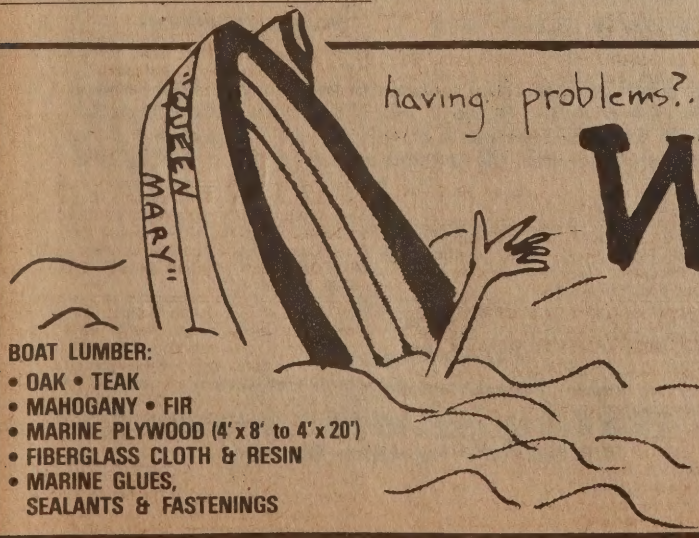
NORTH SHORE WEST END
★ BEST BET ★
BLACKFISH

BAYVILLE

Norm's Bait and Tackle reports blackfish from 5-8 lbs., are taking fiddlers, worms and clams at Whitewood Point, Center Island Reef, Oak Neck Beach, and the hotspot is at the Bayville Bridge. Weakfish activity is good at Lloyd's Neck and the mackerel activity has been on and off. The flounder in the area are still holding on and the porgies are starting to be taken along the shore. A few bass have been taken from the surf, casting at the Center Island Reef. These fish are running from 5-6 lbs., with an occasional 10 lbr., and are taking Rebels and Eelets.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait and Tackle reports excellent blackfish and mackerel activity at Hart's Island. On both Saturday and Sunday, rental boats returned with loads of mackerel and blackfish. The mackerel running up to 3 lbs. and the blacks up to 10½ lbs. Flounder activity in the area has been slowing and striped bass from 3-5 lbs. are taking Rebels or sand worms at Turtle Cove and at the jetty in Orchard Beach.



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The Fisherman's LIBRARY

Modern Saltwater Sportfishing

by Frank Woolner

Salt Water Sportsman's famed editor has put it all together in one complete, entertaining and educating volume. From knots and terminal tackle to surf, boating, bay and pier techniques. From flounder and fluke to striped bass, snook and giant tuna, this book has it all. Woolner's easy to read style will make this one of the favorites on your book shelf. *365pgs., illus.*

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Successful Bluefishing

by Henry Lyman

Salt Water Sportsman publisher Hal Lyman presents a lifetime of experience and research fishing for blues. Thorough coverage is given to the life cycle of the blue and to every angling method. *128 pgs., 75 illus.*

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by Dale Clemens

It's all here – every conceivable aspect of building fiberglass rods from the lightest trout wand to the largest big game trolling rod. Now you can make your own custom rods, tailored exactly to the kinds of fishing you do, to your physique, to the rod action you prefer, and to your tastse in decoration and finish. 190 pages of step-by-step instructions. *196 photos & dia.*

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The Captain's Cookbook

by Capt. Walter Kaprielian

Captain Walter Kaprielian of Montauk compiled, edited, wrote, designed and illustrated this wonderful book on simple, but delicious, recipes for the novice to cook his catch. Beautifully illustrated by the author with step-by-step diagrams, so easy to follow that Stu Miller can cook! *212 large 8½x11" pages, illus.*

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by Vlad Evanoff

A complete guide to better fishing, virtually all you need to know to match your catch with the experts. The emphasis is on method, and every kind of fishing is covered. From smallmouth bass to striped marlin, here are all the secrets – an encyclopedia of fishing knowledge! *228 pages, photos and diagrams.*

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Successful Striped Bass Fishing

by Frank T. Moss

Covers every aspect of striped bass fishing, from light tackle to wire lining, from boats to the surf, with chapters by the leading experts in the sport. *208 pg., 190 ill.*

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by Vic Dunaway

Gives a step-by-step instruction in selecting matching tackle, choosing baits and lures, rigging baits, leaders, terminal tackle, etc. Procedures for trolling, drifting, and still fishing, inshore and offshore, from surf, pier and bridge. *286 pages, 143 photos and diagrams.*

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The Complete Book of Striped Bass

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR	5:15	5:46	6:09	6:40	5:54	6:26	7:04	7:27	9:32	9:53	8:51	9:13	5:05	5:33	6/1
FRI	6:09	6:36	7:02	7:28	6:47	7:14	7:57	8:12	10:23	10:41	9:44	10:02	5:55	6:19	6/2
SAT	6:58	7:19	7:49	8:12	7:38	7:59	8:42	8:53	11:09	11:23	10:33	10:47	6:43	7:05	6/3
SUN	7:42	7:58	8:34	8:52	8:23	8:39	9:22	9:32	11:54	—	11:16	11:27	7:28	7:47	6/4
MON	8:22	8:35	9:15	9:31	9:05	9:19	10:01	10:10	12:02	12:32	11:57	—	8:10	8:31	6/5
TUE	9:02	9:12	9:54	10:07	9:47	9:58	10:42	10:47	12:34	1:04	12:06	12:36	8:53	9:10	6/6
WED	9:41	9:49	10:33	10:46	10:29	10:36	11:20	11:27	12:52	1:23	12:45	1:14	9:36	9:52	6/7
THUR	10:23	10:26	11:12	11:23	11:14	11:14	—	12:02	1:11	1:41	1:22	1:51	10:19	10:33	6/8

How To Use Tide Tables

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet .....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

6/5	5:25	8:32
6/10	5:24	8:35
6/15	5:24	8:37
6/20	5:24	8:39
6/25	5:25	8:40
6/30	5:27	8:40

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr
6/5	6/13	6/20	6/27

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	1:35	**8:20**	2:15	**8:45**
Fri.	2:30	**9:05**	3:00	**9:25**
Sat.	3:15	**9:45**	3:40	**10:10**
Sun.	3:55	**10:30**	4:25	**10:55**
Mon.	4:40	**11:15**	5:10	**11:40**
Tues.	5:25	—	5:55	**12:10**
Wed.	6:20	**12:30**	6:45	**12:55**
Thurs.	7:05	**1:25**	7:35	**1:50**

nothing.

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When you have Du Pont *Stren* monofilament on your reel, you have everything a fishing line can give you...all in one line.

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